juncture to conſpire, by which the Ottoman court may take a more active part on the great political theatre of Europe. Sultan Selim III, is the eldeſt male deſcendant of the houſe of Oſman, who in 1299 eſtabliſhed the fifth dynaſty of the kalifes. At the death of his father Muſtafa III, in 1775, he was fourteen years old. According to the known precedent among the Turks, Abdul-hamid, his uncle, ſucceeded to the throne; for they diſdain to be governed either by a woman or a boy.

At his acceſſion Abdel-hamid had reached the age of forty-nine, and during the fifteen years' reign of his brother Muſtafa had endured a ſtate of impriſonment, which the jealous policy of the ſeraglio had long ordained. As a ſolace of his confinement, he cultivated literature and the arts of peace. His diſpoſition, mild and beneficent, induced him to forego the ancient prejudice, and to ſuperintend the education of Sultan Selim, giving him every liberal indulgence. Sultan Muſtafa and Sultan Mahmood, the ſons of Abdul-hamid and the only remaining heirs of the empire, are both minors. They experience a generous return for their father's kindneſs, and are treated with ſuitable reſpect. Each has his ſeparate ſuite of apartments, and forty attendants, among whom are thirty elderly female ſlaves, with an annual revenue of 50 ol. ſterling. The good muſſulman, who laments the poſſible extinction of the Imperial family, is comforted by the aſtrologers, who have publicly declared, that after he has attained to forty years, Sultan Selim will be bleſſed with a numerous progeny.

His countenance is handſome and impreſſive, and his figure good; he is affable, and poſſeſſes much ſpeculative genius, is not ill informed of the characters and ſeparate intereſts of his contemporary princes, and has every inclination to reconcile his ſubjects to the ſuperior expediency of European maxims, both in politics and war. But it is dubious if he be capable of that energetic activity, and that perſonal exertion, which are required in an abſolute prince to remodel a people whoſe opinions are not to be changed but by an univerſal revolution.

Peter the Great and Charles XII, in their plans of regenerating or conquering the Ruſſians, did not depend ſolely upon the agency of miniſters for ſucceſs.

The curioſity of Selim reſpecting the other nations of Europe originated in frequent converſations with Rachib Effendi, the preſent hiſtoriographer-royal, who was for ſome time envoy at Vienna, after the laſt war. Thoſe who have gained his confidence ſince the commencement of his reign, have conſulted that inclination, and improved every opportunity of extending his intelligence on thoſe ſubjects. I have heard it aſſerted that the young men in the ſeraglio are now inſtructed in the French language by his command; and his partiality to French wine is no ſecret among the well informed.

The firſt efforts toward improvement have been applied to the army and marine. Forts have been erected on the Boſphorus, regiments have been trained to European diſcipline, chiefly by French officers, and the fleet has become in a certain degree formidable.

When he has leiſure to render his vaſt territory, at leaſt in the vicinity of his capital, more reſemblant of civilized nations, he will probably eſtabliſh a poſt, which may facilitate communication between diſtant provinces. During the laſt war many places of importance were taken, or evacuated, weeks before the miniſtry were in poſſeſſion of the fact.

The only imperial works now ſeen in his dominions are moſques, aqueducts, and fountains; he may hereafter turn his attention to great roads,

now

now barely affords, which would be a useful ornament of his fame.

Mehmet Melek Pasha, the late vizir, died in 1794. He was a favourite, in his youth, of Mustafa III, who gave him his sister in marriage, and the appellation of Melek, or the Angel, on account of his singular beauty; for the Turks usually take their surname from some personal excellence or peculiarity. After having enjoyed some of the most lucrative governments in the empire, he returned to Constantinople, and was called to the vizirate, at the advanced age of ninety years, in 1789. He has retired to his palace on the Asiatic side of the Bosphorus; and, as an extraordinary fact in natural history, has had a son born to him whose legitimacy cannot be invalidated.

The present system of government aims at the suppression of the former sole authority of the vizir, and has reduced him to a mere member of the cabinet council. As the Sultan takes a more active share than his predecessor in public affairs, and listens to more advisers, it seems to draw to an end. The vizir now in office is likewise a harmless old man, so that they may probably soon sit state-statues only.

The ruling persons of the present day are, 1. Yusuf Agha, kiayah, or high-steward to the Sultan's mother, who retains a very decided influence with her. Yusuf's private life has been marked by uncommon circumstances. He is a native of Cardia, and was originally a writer to a ship, from which employment he passed into the service of Abdallah Pasha, beglerbey of Anatolia, residing at Kutayah. During ten years he so ingratiated himself with the pasha, that he determined to leave to him his great wealth at his decease. Accordingly he gave him many pelisses, ordering him to go to the Porte, and to wipe the bowstring complaints against him for his ingratitude and ill-treatment. Meanwhile the pasha died. The capidji bashi was dispatched by the sultan to seize the treasure, but found nothing, and Yusuf, from the predicament in which he stood, was the last person to be suspected. With this wealth he lived in splendour at Constantinople, and frequented the audiences of the vizir. He was soon appointed taraphana eminy, or master of the mint, from which he was advanced to his present post.

2. Ratib Effendi has twice held the important office of Reis Effendi, or secretary of state. He rose from a public clerk, passing through all the preliminary gradations with distinguished ability. He is beyond comparison the best informed and most capable minister in the cabinet.

Tchiuseh, kiayeh, or deputy to the vizir, is at the head of the finance, and planned the new taxes.

The present capudan pasha, or high admiral, called Kuchuk Hussein, from his diminutive stature, was a Georgian slave, and the companion of the sultan in his childhood. From the seraglio he emerged to take the command of the navy, it may be presumed without much previous acquaintance with maritime affairs. But his administration has been very beneficial; for he has raised the marine from the miserable state it was left in at the conclusion of the Russian war, to respectability. The new ships are built under the inspection of European surveyors, and French nautical terms have been adopted. At the beginning of the present century, the Turkish fleet consisted of thirty two ships of the line, thirty-four galleys, and some brigantines; they can now send to sea fourteen first rates, six frigates, and fifty sloops of war.

Every spring he leaves Constantinople with a few ships, to visit the Archipelago, to receive the capitation tax from the different islands, and to free the seas from pirates, and the Maltese cruisers. The time of his coming

coming is generally known, fo that the ſervice is little more than a matter of form. His reception by the ſultan, both at his departure and return, is a brilliant ſpectacle. He is married to the only daughter of Abdul-hamid, and is honoured with the private friendſhip of his ſovereign.

Every ſcheme for defending the coaſts of the Black ſea by forts and batteries, and for military regulations, is ſubmitted to Chelby Effendi, who ſurveys their execution, if approved. He was maſter of the mathematical ſchool founded in 1773, by Ghazi Haſſan paſha, a very celebrated character in the laſt reign.

This extraordinary perſon was likewiſe a Georgian ſlave, and afterward a Barbary corſair. Having been taken priſoner by the Spaniards, he paſſed ſix years of ſlavery at Madrid, from whence he was ſent to Naples, where he was exchanged, and returned to Conſtantinople. His reputation for perſonal courage procured him the command of a galley, and afterwards of a frigate. At the unfortunate battle of Chefme he had a ſhip of the line under Jaffer, capudan paſha, who upon his diſgrace died of chagrin, and was ſucceeded by Haſſan.

He was extremely whimſical, and kept a lion's whelp always on his ſofa, which he had trained up to follow him, but which, having killed one of the domeſtics, was afterward chained. He became viſier, and died at the age of more than ſeventy, in the campaign againſt the Ruſſians, not without ſuſpicion of poiſon. So ſingular was his bravery, and ſo frequent his ſucceſſes, that he aſſumed the name of Ghazi, the victorious. Abdul-hamid was fearful, and conſidered the ſafety of the empire endangered by his abſence from Conſtantinople.

Of his prevailing influence the following relation is a proof, and gives traits of ſecret machinations practiſed in the ſeraglio.

One of his ſlaves, named Yuſuf, had ſo recommended himſelf by ſuperior talents, that he gave him liberty, and promotion to the moſt conſiderable offices. At the time Yuſuf returned from his government of the Morea, to take upon him the office of viſier, Mavroyeni, a Greek of a noble family, was the dragoman, or interpreter, to his patron Haſſan. Petraki, another Greek, was maſter of the mint, and imperial banker, and had amaſſed ſeven millions of piaſtres.

This man being ambitious of becoming prince of Wallachia, he three times procured the appointment of Mavroyeni to that high ſtation, who had the intereſt of Haſſan and the viſier, to be ſupercedes. But they, impatient of the diſappointment, repreſented to Abdul-hamid, that the people demanded the life of Petraki in atonement of his peculation, who timidly conſented to his execution, and he was inſtantly impriſoned. On the very day of the high ceremony of Mavroyeni's inveſtiture, he was led to the gate of the ſeraglio to kiſs his ſtirrup, and ſue for pardon. At that inſtant, the executioner ſtruck off his head, and Mavroyeni had the ſatisfaction of ſeeing his rival dead at his feet. Another Haſſan paſha who hated him, becoming viſier, ordered him to be beheaded upon the charge of betraying Giurgevow, the firſt Turkiſh fortreſs upon the Danube, to the Germans. He died a muſſulman. Abdul-hamid, when informed of the laſt-mentioned circumſtances, was ſo far convinced of his innocence, that in a few months the vindictive viſier ſhared the ſame fate.

The officers of the ſeraglio are very numerous. The kiſlar-agha, or chief of the black eunuchs, having the arrangement of the female department, is moſt familiar with the ſultan, and is a powerful friend, or enemy, to the miniſters of ſtate.

Between the officers of the ſeraglio and thoſe who compoſe the divan, there ſubſiſts a perpetual rivalry, and if the emperor be either very active

or

or miniſter in public buſineſs, there is a ſpecies of their jealouſy. Thoſe with whom he is conſtantly converſant, and before whom he relaxes into complete freedom, muſt neceſſarily obtain a ſecret influence enough to bias him to meaſures of importance, if he withſtand his cuſtomable counſellors, or is determined by firſt reflections without farther deliberation.

The miniſters are admitted to an audience with the ſultan with the profoundeſt ceremony. Even in the preſence of the mild Abdul hamid the bold Haſſan was overpowered with awe, and the lion ſeemed to be tranſformed into a lamb. One of the preſent miniſtry, a man of great vivacity, is ſaid to compoſe his ſpirits with a pill of opium before he approaches the throne.

ANECDOTES AND GLEANINGS.

Innocent XIth.

The Pope, to whom James II. ſent his emiſſary, was wearied of much importunity and impudence: and juſtly conſidered the reſtoration of the Church of Rome in England as an impoſſible thing. Petre, the ambaſſador, was ridiculed with his maſter's infatuation, and laughed at for requeſting that a ſpecial nuncio might be ſent to propoſe deceſſive meaſures. Diſguſted with the Pontiff's conduct, he at laſt demanded an audience of leave: and being ſpeedily admitted, he pronounced a long harangue, full of reproaches, the Pope for the moſt part ſitting in ſo important a buſineſs. The Pope having heard him with great *ſang froid*, at laſt anſwered, "The ſee of Italy is remarkable for its moderate conſtitutions, and I have always taken care of mine, and I wiſh you a good journey."

It was ſaid on this occaſion that Europe might have reaſon to fear the tranquillity of Europe; that the king of England ſhould turn Proteſtant, and the Pope Roman Catholic.

French philoſophers.

Voltaire, Voiſenon, and Helvetius. Rouſſeau I never could like. Like moſt Frenchmen, a little ſpice of levity, and you compoſe his perſonal character. I found the French philoſophers to be impudent, dogmatic, and impoſitive, that I deteſted their converſation. Of all kinds of vice I here reckoning vice. Unprincipled themſelves, they affected to dictate morality and ſentiment. The great, from vain glory and want of ideas, encouraged their preſence: but they always reminded me of the ſophiſts, hired to aſſiſt at Roman entertainments. And what reaſoning! Every Frenchman ought to be taught logic and mathematics, that his mind may acquire ſome ſolidity. Their character is ſo impetuous, that what with us is inflation, is with them paſſion. The real philoſophers of antiquity were diſtinguiſhed for their moderation, a radical mark of knowledge and wiſdom; and they treated the popular religion with reſpect. Our new ſect are fanatics againſt religion: and ſurely of all human characters a fanatic philoſopher is the moſt incongruous, and of courſe the moſt truly ludicrous.

George Lord Lyttleton

always declared to his friends, how much happier he ſhould have been, had he been brought up to ſome profeſſion or buſineſs, ſo difficult did he find it to fettle his attention to ſomething to which he was not obliged to fettle it. Dr Johnſon, in his Life of him, ſuppreſſed an anecdote which would have made his memory ridiculous. He was a man rather melancholy in his diſpoſition, and uſed to declare to his friends, that when he went to Vauxhall, he always ſuppoſed pleaſure to be in the *next box* to his—at leaſt, that he *muſt* was ſo unhappily ſituated as always to be in the *wrong box* for it.

From the Works of the late Lord Orford.

PEROUSE'S VOYAGE ROUND THE WORLD.

(Continued from p. 92.)

CONTENTS.—Deſcription of Port des Francais—Advantages and Inconveniences of this Port—Its Mineral and Vegetable Productions—Birds, Fiſhes, Shells, Quadrupeds—Manners and Cuſtoms of the Indians—Their Arts, Arms, Dreſs, and Inclination for Theft—Strong Preſumption that the Ruſſians only communicate indirectly with theſe People—Their Muſic, Dancing, and Paſſion for Play.

THE ſea riſes there ſeven feet and a half at full and change of the moon; it is high water at one o'clock: the ſea breezes, or perhaps other cauſes, act ſo powerfully upon the current of the channel, that I have ſeen the flood come in there like the moſt rapid river; and in other circumſtances, though at the ſame periods of the moon, it may be ſtemmed by a boat.

Theſe tides are probably incident to the bad ſeaſon. When the winds blow with violence from the ſouthward, the channel muſt be impracticable, and at all times the currents render the entrance difficult; the going out of it alſo requires a combination of circumſtances, which may retard the departure of a veſſel many weeks; there is no getting under way but at the top of high water; the breeze from the weſt to the north-weſt does not often riſe till toward eleven o'clock, which doth not permit the taking advantage of the morning tide; finally, the eaſterly winds, which are contrary, appear to me to be more frequent than thoſe from the weſt, and the vaſt height of the ſurrounding mountains never permits the land breezes, or thoſe from the north, to penetrate into the road. As this port poſſeſſes great advantages, I thought it a duty incumbent on me to make its inconveniences alſo known. It ſeems to me, that this anchorage is not convenient for thoſe ſhips which are ſent out at a venture for trafficking in ſkins: ſuch ſhips ought to anchor in a great many bays, and always make the ſhorteſt ſtay poſſible in any of them, becauſe the Indians have always diſpoſed of their whole ſtock in the firſt week; and loſt time is prejudicial to the intereſts of the owner. Any nation eſtabliſhing factories ſimilar to thoſe of the Engliſh at Hudſon's Bay, could not make choice of a fitter place for ſuch a ſettlement. The fort, the magazines, and all the ſettlements for commerce, ſhould be raiſed upon Cenotaph Iſland, the circumference of which is nearly a league: it is capable of being cultivated, and there is plenty of wood and water. The ſhips not having their cargo to ſeek, but being certain of having it collected to a ſingle point, would not be expoſed to any delay; ſome buoys, placed for the internal navigation of the bay, would make it extremely ſafe and eaſy; it would form pilots, who, better verſed than we are in the ſet and ſtrength of the current at particular times of tide, would enſure the entrance and departure of the ſhips. Finally, the climate of this coaſt ſeemed to me to be infinitely milder than that of Hudſon's Bay, in the ſame degree of latitude. We meaſured pines of ſix feet diameter, and a hundred and forty feet high; thoſe of the ſame ſpecies at Prince of Wales' Fort and Fort York are of a dimenſion ſcarce ſufficient for ſtudding-ſail booms.

Vegetation is alſo very vigorous during three or four months of the year. I ſhould not be in the leaſt ſurpriſed to ſee Ruſſian corn, and a great many common plants, thrive there exceedingly. We found great abundance of celery, round leaved ſorrel, lupine, the wild pea, yarrow, and endive. Every day and every meal the copper of our ſhip's company was filled with them; we ate them in ſoups, ragouts, and ſallads; and theſe herbs did not a little contribute to keep us in our good ſtate of health. There was ſeen among

among theſe pot-herbs almoſt all thoſe of the meadows and mountains of France; the angelica, the butter cup, the violet, many ſpecies of graſs proper for fodder; we might without any danger have cooked and eat all theſe herbs if they had not been mixed with ſome roots of a kind of hemlock, about which we knew nothing.

The woods abound in goofeberries, raſpberries, and ſtrawberries; cluſters of elder trees, the dwarf willow, different ſpecies of briar which grow in the ſhade, the gun poplar tree, the poplar, the ſallow, the hornbeam, and finally ſuperb pines fit for the maſts of our largeſt ſhips. Not any of the vegetable productions of this country are unknown in Europe. M. de Mortiniere, in his different excurſions, met with only three plants which he thought new, and it is well known, that a botaniſt might do the ſame in the vicinity of Paris.

The rivers were filled with trout and ſalmon, but we took in the bay only fleetans, ſome of which are more than a hundred pounds in weight, ling, the ſingle thornback, capelans, and ſome plaice. There are alſo found in the hollows of the rocks different ſpecies of whelke and other ſea ſnails. I have ſeen upon the ſand of the beach pretty large cockles, and M. de Lamanon took, from a place elevated more than two hundred toiſes above the level of the ſea, petrefactions, very well preſerved, and of the largeſt dimenſions, of the ſhell known by conchologiſts under the name of the *royal cloak*, and more commonly by *James' ſhell*. This ſhell is by no means new to naturaliſts, who have found them at more conſiderable heights; but I think there will long remain a difficulty of explaining it, ſo as to ſatisfy all objections. We did not find any ſhell of this ſpecies thrown up upon the beach, which is well known to be the cabinet of nature.

In the woods our hunters met with bears, martens, ſquirrels; and the Indians ſold us ſkins of the brown and black bear; of the Canadian lynx, ermine, marten, little grey ſquirrel, beaver, Canadian marmot, or monax, and the red fox. M. de Lamanon alſo took alive a water and a muſk rat. We ſaw tanned ſkins of the original, or elk, and a horn of a wild goat; but the commoneſt and moſt precious peltry is that of the ſea otter, wolf, and bear. There is no great variety of birds, but the individuals are pretty numerous: the thickets were full of ſparrows, nightingales, blackbirds, and yellow hammers; we were there in pairing time, and their ſinging appeared to me delightful. In the air were ſeen hovering the white-headed eagle, the largeſt ſpecies of raven; we ſurpriſed and killed a king fiſher, and we ſaw a very beautiful blue jay, with ſome humming birds. The ſwallow or martin, and the black oyſter-catcher build their neſts in the cleſts of the rocks on the ſea-ſhore; gulls, the red-footed guillemot, ſome cormorants, wild geeſe, and divers, of the large and ſmall ſpecies, are the only ſea birds which we ſaw.

But if the animal and vegetable productions of this country reſemble a great many others, its appearance has no ſort of compariſon; and I have my doubts whether the profound valleys of the Alps and Pyrenees preſent views as frightful, but which are at the ſame time ſo pictureſque, that they would deſerve the viſits of the curious were they not at the extremity of the world.

The primitive mountains of granite, or ſchiſtus, perpetually covered with ſnow, upon which are neither trees nor plants, have their foundation in the ſea, and form upon the ſhore a kind of quay; their ſlope is ſo rapid, that after the firſt two or three hundred toiſes, the wild goats cannot climb them; and all the gullies which ſeparate them are immenſe glaciers, of which the tops cannot be diſcerned, while the baſe is waſhed by the ſea:

at

at a cable's length from the land there is no bottom at leſs than a hundred and ſixty fathoms.

The ſides of the harbour are formed by ſecondary mountains, the elevation of which does not exceed from eight to nine hundred toiſes; they are covered with pines, and overſpread with verdure, and the ſnow is only ſeen on their ſummits: to me they appeared to be entirely formed of ſchiſtus, which is in the commencement of a ſtate of decompoſition; they are extremely difficult to climb, but not altogether inacceſſible. Meſſrs Lamanon, de la Martiniere, Collignon, the Abbe Monges, and father Receveur, zealous and indefatigable naturaliſts, made their way almoſt to the top of them, but it was with very great fatigue that they aſcended any conſiderable height; not a ſtone or pebble eſcaped their reſearches. Too ſkilful naturaliſts not to know that in the valleys are to be found ſpecimens of every thing which forms the maſs of the mountains, they collected ochre, coppery pyrites, garnets, brittle but very large and perfectly cryſtallized, ſchorl in chryſtal, granite, ſchiſti, hornſtone, very pure quartz, mica, plumbago, and coal; ſome of theſe ſubſtances prove that theſe mountains contain copper and iron ores, but we ſaw not the leaſt of any other metals.

Nature aſſigns inhabitants to ſo frightful a country who as widely differ from the people of civilized countries, as the ſcene I have juſt deſcribed differs from our cultivated plains; as rude and barbarous as their ſoil is rocky and barren, they inhabit this land only to deſtroy its population: at war with all the animals, they deſpiſe the vegetable ſubſtances which grow around them. I have ſeen women and children eat ſome raſpberries and ſtrawberries, but theſe are undoubtedly viands far too inſipid for men, who live upon the earth like vultures in the air, or wolves and tigers in the foreſts.

Their arts are ſomewhat advanced, and in this reſpect civilization has made conſiderable progreſs; but that which ſoftens their ferocity, and poliſhes their manners, is yet in its infancy: the mode of life they purſue excluding all kind of ſubordination, they are continually agitated by fear or revenge; prone to anger and eaſily irritated, they are continually attacking each other dagger in hand. Expoſed in the winter to perith for want, becauſe the chace cannot be ſucceſsful, they live during the ſummer in the greateſt abundance, as they can catch in leſs than an hour a ſufficient quantity of fiſh for the ſupport of their family; they remain idle during the reſt of the day, which they paſs at play, to which they are as much addicted as ſome of the inhabitants in our great cities. This gaming is the great ſource of their quarrels. If to all theſe deſtructive vices they ſhould unfortunately add a knowledge of the uſe of any inebriating liquor, I ſhould not heſitate to pronounce, that this colony would be entirely annihilated.

In vain may philoſophers exclaim againſt this picture. They write books in their cloſets, while I have been engaged in voyages during a courſe of thirty years. I have been a witneſs of the injuſtice and deceptions of theſe people, whom they have deſcribed to us as ſo good, becauſe they are very near to a ſtate of nature; but this ſame nature is only ſublime in her maſſes, ſhe is negligent of all details. It is not poſſible to penetrate into woods which the hand of civilized man has not made paſſable; to traverſe plains filled with ſtones and rocks, and inundated by impaſſible marſhes; in a word to form ſociety with man in a ſtate of nature; becauſe he is barbarous, deceitful, and wicked. In this opinion I have been confirmed by my own melancholy experience; I nevertheleſs have not thought proper to make uſe of the force, which was entruſted to me, for the purpoſe of re-

pelling the injuſtice of theſe ſavages, and of teaching them, that men have rights which muſt not be violated with impunity.

Indians in their canoes were continually round our frigates; they paſſed two or three hours there before they began to exchange a few fiſhes, or two or three otter ſkins; they ſeized all occaſions to rob us; they tore off the iron which was eaſy to be carried away, and above all they examined carefully how they might deceive our vigilance during the night. I cauſed the principal perſons among them to come on board my frigate, I loaded them with preſents, yet theſe very men whom I ſo particularly diſtinguiſhed, did not diſdain the theft of an old pair of breeches or a nail. When they aſſumed a mild and pleaſant appearance, I was poſitive they had ſtolen ſomething, although I frequently pretended not to perceive it.

I had expreſsly recommended the careſſing of their children, and giving them little preſents; the parents were inſenſible to this mark of beneVolence, which I thought incident to all countries; the only reflection it gave riſe to in their breaſts was, to aſk to accompany their children when I made them come on board; and I ſeveral times, for my inſtruction, had the pleaſure of ſeeing the father take advantage of the moment in which we ſeemed moſt engaged with his child, to take up and hide under his ſkin garment every thing that lay within his reach.

Sometimes, immediately after loading them with preſents, I pretended to have a deſire for certain little articles of trifling value, which belonged to theſe Indians; but this was a trial of their generoſity, which I always made in vain.

I will however admit, if it be deſired, that it is impoſſible for a ſociety to exiſt without ſome virtues; but I am obliged to confeſs, that I had not the penetration to perceive them; quarrelling continually among themſelves, indifferent to their children, and abſolute tyrants over their women, whom they inceſſantly condemn to the moſt painful labours; I have obſerved nothing among theſe people which will permit me to ſoften the colouring of this picture.

We never went on ſhore but well armed and in force; they were very much afraid of our firelocks, and eight or ten Europeans in a body might keep a whole village in awe. The ſurgeon-majors of our two frigates having been ſo imprudent as to go a hunting by themſelves, were attacked by the Indians, who endeavoured to force their muſkets from them, but in this they were unſucceſsful: thus two men, without any other aſſiſtance, made ſo good a defence as to oblige them to retire. The ſame event was experienced by M. de Leſſeps, a young Ruſſian interpreter, to whoſe aſſiſtance one of our boat's crews very fortunately arrived. Theſe commencements of hoſtility appeared to them ſo trifling, that they did not in the leaſt prevent them from coming on board, and they never ſuſpected our being capable of making reprizals.

I gave the name of village to three or four wooden ſheds, of twenty-five feet in length, and fifteen in breadth, covered only to windward with planks, or bark of trees; in the middle was a fire, over which were hung ſome flat fiſh and ſalmon drying in the ſmoke. Eighteen or twenty perſons were lodged in each of theſe ſheds: on one ſide the women and children, and the men on the other. It ſeemed to me that every cabin formed a ſmall colony, independent of its neighbour; each of them had its canoe, and a kind of chief; it took away its planks and fiſh, departed and proceeded out of the bay, without the reſt of the village ſeeming to be at all concerned.

I think I may venture to aſſert, that this port is inhabited only in the

favour-

favourable ſeaſon, and that the Indians never paſs a winter in it; I did not ſee a ſingle cabin ſheltered from the rain; and although there had never been collected together ſo many as three hundred Indians in the bay, we were viſited by ſeven or eight hundred others.

The canoes were continually entering and going out of the bay, and each of them brought and carried away their houſe and furniture, which conſiſted of a great many ſmall boxes in which were incloſed their moſt valuable effects: theſe boxes are placed at the entrance of their cabins, which poſſeſs a nattineſs and ſtench, to which the den of no known animal in the world can properly be compared. They never remove themſelves more than two ſteps for the performance of any neceſſary occaſion, in which they ſeek neither for ſhade nor privacy, as if they had not an inſtant to loſe; and when this happens during a meal, they take their place again, from which they never were at a greater diſtance than five or ſix feet. The wooden veſſels in which they cook their fiſh are never waſhed; they ſerve them for kettle, diſh, and plate; as theſe veſſels cannot bear the fire, they make the water boil with red hot flint ſtones, which are renewed at intervals till the victuals are quite ready. They are alſo acquainted with the method of roaſting, which differs little or nothing from that of ſoldiers in a camp. It is probable, that we may only have ſeen a ſmall part of theſe people, who in all likelihood inhabit a conſiderable part of the ſea ſhore. During the ſummer they wander in the different bays, ſeeking their food like ſeals; and in the winter they puſh into the interior of the country to hunt beavers and other animals, of which they brought us the ſpoils: though their feet are always naked, the ſole of them is never callous, and they cannot, without ſhrinking, walk over ſtones; which is a proof they only travel in canoes, or on the ſnow with rackets.

Dogs are the only animals with which they have entered into alliance; there are generally three or four of them in a cabin; they are ſmall, and reſemble the ſhepherd's dog of M. de Buffon; they ſeldom bark, but have a hiſs nearly reſembling that of the Bengal jackal, and they are ſo ſavage, that to other dogs they ſeem to be what their maſters are to the civilized people.

The men pierce the cartilage of the ears and noſe, to which they hang different ſmall ornaments; they make ſcars on their arms and breaſts, with a very keen-edged inſtrument, which they ſharpen by paſſing over their teeth as over a ſtone; their teeth are filed cloſe to the gums, and for this operation they uſe a ſand-ſtone rounded in the ſhape of a tongue. They uſe ochre, ſoot, and plumbago, mixed up with train oil, to paint the face and the reſt of the body in a frightful manner. In their full dreſs, their hair is flowing at full length, powdered, and plaited with the down of ſea birds; this is their greateſt luxury, and is perhaps reſerved only to the chiefs of a family; their ſhoulders are covered with a ſimple ſkin; the reſt of the body abſolutely naked, except the head, which is generally covered with a little ſtraw hat, very ſkilfully plaited; but they ſometimes place on their heads two horned bonnets of eagles feathers, and even whole heads of bears, in which they fix a wooden ſkull-cap. Theſe ſeveral head-dreſſes are extremely various; but their principal object, like all their other cuſtoms, is to render themſelves frightful, perhaps for the purpoſe of keeping their enemies in awe.

Some Indians had entire ſhirts of otters ſkin, and the common dreſs of a great chief was a ſhirt of a tanned ſkin of the elk, bordered with a fringe of deers hoofs and beaks of birds, which when they dance imitates the noiſe of

a kind of bell; this ſame dreſs is very well known among the ſavages of Canada, and other nations who inhabit the eaſtern parts of America.

I never ſaw any tatooing but on the arms of a few women, who are addicted to a cuſtom which renders them hideous, and which I could ſcarcely have believed, had I not been a witneſs to it; all of them, without exception, have the lower lip ſlit at the root of the gums, the whole width of the mouth; they wear a kind of wooden bowl without handles, which reſts againſt the gums, to which the lower cut lip ſerves for a ſupport, ſo that the lower part of the mouth juts out two or three inches. The drawing by M. Duche de Vancy, which is exactneſs itſelf, will explain better than any deſcription, the moſt diſguſting faſhion perhaps on the earth. The young girls have only a needle in the lower lip, and the married women alone have a right to the bowl. We ſometimes prevailed on them to pull off this ornament, to which they with difficulty agreed; they then teſtified the ſame embarraſſment, and made the ſame geſtures as a woman in Europe who diſcovers her boſom. The lower lip then fell upon the chin, and this ſecond picture was not more enchanting than the firſt.

Theſe women, the moſt diſguſting of any on the earth, covered with ſtinking ſkins, which are frequently untanned, failed not, however, to excite deſires in ſome perſons, in fact of no ſmall conſequence: they at firſt ſtarted many difficulties, giving aſſurances by their geſtures that they ran the riſk of their lives; but being overcome by preſents, they had no objection to the ſun being a witneſs, and abſolutely refuſed to retire into the wood. There can be no doubt that this planet is the god of theſe people, they frequently addreſs themſelves to it in their prayer, but I ſaw neither temple nor prieſts, nor the leaſt trace of any worſhip.

The ſtature of theſe Indians is very near our own: the features of their face are very various, and exhibit no particular character but in the expreſſion of their eyes, which never beam forth a ſingle ſentiment of tenderneſs. The colour of their ſkin is very brown, owing to their being continually expoſed to the air; but their children, at the time of birth, are as white as ours. Their beard is in fact leſs than that of Europeans, but nevertheleſs ſufficient to take away all poſſibility of doubt of it: the belief that the American Indians have no beards is an error which has been too ſlightly adopted; I have ſeen the native Indians of New England, Canada, Acadia, and Hudſon's Bay, and I have found, among the different nations, ſeveral individuals with beards, which led me to think that the others were in the habit of pulling them out by the roots. The frame of their body is feeble; the weakeſt of our ſailors would overcome in wreſtling the ſtrongeſt of the Indians. I have ſeen ſome of them whoſe ſwelled legs ſeemed ſymptomatic of the ſcurvy, but their gums were in a very good ſtate; I have my doubts, however, of their arriving to any great age, and I perceived only one woman who ſeemed to have reached ſixty; ſhe did not enjoy any privilege, and was, like the others, ſubjected to the different labours of her ſex.

My voyages have enabled me to make compariſons between different nations, and I dare venture to aſſert, that the Indians of *Port des Français* are not Eſquimaux; they have evidently a common origin with all the interior of Canada and the northern parts of America.

The Eſquimaux are diſtinguiſhed from the other American Indians by a very particular countenance, and cuſtoms abſolutely different. The firſt ſeem to me to bear a ſtrong reſemblance to the Greenlanders; they inhabit the coaſt of Labrador, Hudſon's

Streights

Streight, and a ſkirt of land, the whole extent of America, as far as the peninſula of Alaſhka. There is much doubt whether theſe people came originally from Greenland or Aſia; it is certainly an idle queſtion to agitate, as the problem will never be ſatisfactorily ſolved; it is ſufficient to ſay, that the Eſquimaux are a people much more addicted to fiſhing than to hunting, and that they prefer oil to blood, and perhaps to every thing, very commonly eating raw fiſh: their canoes are always covered with ſeal ſkins, very well ſtretched; they are ſo expert in ſwimming, that they ſcarcely differ from ſeals, they turn themſelves in the water with the ſame facility as amphibious animals; they have a ſquare face, ſmall eyes and feet, and broad breaſt, and are of ſhort ſtature. None of theſe characters ſeem to agree with the natives of *Port des Francais*; they are much bigger, meagre, not robuſt, and unſkilful in the conſtruction of their canoes, which are formed of a hollow tree raiſed on each ſide with planks.

Like us, they fiſh by ſtaking the rivers, or with a line. In the latter method they are very ingenious: they faſten to every line a large ſeal's bladder, and then throw it into the water; from every canoe a dozen or fifteen lines may be caſt; when the fiſh is hooked, it ſets the bladder in motion, and the canoe haſtens after it; two men may thus watch a dozen or fifteen lines without the trouble of holding them in their hands.

Theſe Indians have made much more progreſs in the arts than in morals, and their induſtry is more advanced than that of the inhabitants of the South Sea iſlands; I except, however, agriculture, which, by inclining man to ſtay at home, ſecuring his ſubſiſtence, and inſpiring him with the dread of ſeeing the land which he has cultivated ravaged, is perhaps the propereſt method of ſoftening his manners, and making him fit for ſociety.

The Americans of *Port des Francais* know how to forge iron, to faſhion copper, to ſpin the hair of different animals, and, by the help of a needle, to fabricate with this yarn a tiſſue equal to our tapeſtry; they intermix in this tiſſue narrow ſtrips of otter's ſkin, which gives their cloaks the reſemblance of the fineſt ſilk ſhag. In no part of the world can hats and baſkets of reeds be plaited with more ſkill; they figure upon them very agreeable deſigns; they alſo engrave, very tolerably, figures of men and animals in wood and ſtone; they inlay boxes with mother of pearl, the form of which is very elegant; they make ornaments of ſerpentine, to which they give the poliſh of marble.

Their weapons of attack and defence are the dagger which I have already deſcribed, a lance made of wood hardened by fire, or with iron, according to the wealth of the owner; and laſtly, a bow and arrows, which are generally tipped at the point with copper; but theſe bows have nothing particular in them, and are not near ſo ſtrong as thoſe of many other nations.

I found among their trinkets pieces of yellow amber, but I am ignorant whether it be a production of their country, or whether, like the iron, they have received it from the old continent by their indirect communication with the Ruſſians.

I have already mentioned, that ſeven large canoes had been caſt away at the entrance of the harbour; theſe canoes were thirty four feet long, four broad, and ſix deep; theſe conſiderable dimenſions rendered them very proper for making long voyages. They were covered with ſeal ſkins, after the manner of the Eſquimaux, which induced us to think, that *Port des Francais* was a repoſitory, and only inhabited during the fiſhing ſeaſon. It ſeemed to us poſſible, that the Eſquimaux from the vicinity of Shumagin iſlands, and the peninſula explored by Captain Cook, extended their commerce as

far

far as this part of America, that they here diſtributed iron and other articles, and that, with advantage to themſelves, they carried back otters' ſkins, which they ſeek after with the greateſt eagerneſs. The ſhape of the wrecked canoes, and the vaſt quantity of ſkins for which we traficked, and which might have been collected here for the purpoſe of being ſold to theſe ſtrangers, ſeem to ſupport this conjecture, which I ſhould not however hazard, but that it appears to explain, better than any other, the origin of the iron and other European merchandizes in their poſſeſſion.

I have ſpoken of the paſſion of theſe Indians for play; that to which they deliver themſelves up with the greateſt avidity is abſolutely a game of chance; they have thirty wooden pieces, each having different marks like our dice of theſe they hide ſeven; each of them plays in his turn, and he whoſe gueſs comes neareſt to the number marked upon the ſeven pieces, is the winner of the ſtake agreed upon, which is generally a piece of iron or a hatchet. This gaming renders them ſerious and melancholy; I have nevertheleſs very frequently heard them ſing: and when the chief came to pay me a viſit, he commonly paddled round the ſhip ſinging, his arms extended in the form of a croſs in token of friendſhip; he then came on board, and played a pantomime, which was expreſſive either of combats, ſurpriſes, or death.

The air which preceded this dance was agreeable, and tolerably harmonious.

(*To be continued.*)

ON THE CAUSES OF EXCESS IN DRINKING PECULIAR TO SOME COUNTRIES.

IT is, in general, with whole nations, as with individuals; the more noble and generous they are, ſo much the more moderate are they in the enjoyments of ſenſe; and on the contrary, the more baſe and ignoble, ſo much the more preponderant and unconquerable is their propenſity to ſenſual pleaſures of the groſſer kinds. One main branch of ſenſuality is an inclination to intoxicating or ſtupifying liquors or drugs; and this inclination augments, in whole nations, allowing for ſome particular exceptions, in equal proportion with the decline of ſuperior mental powers, and the diſpoſition to great virtues and ſignal exploits. Accordingly, all Sclavonian nations have ever been, as in general, more ſenſual, ſo alſo more intemperate in the uſe of ſtrong liquors, than the Non-Sclavonian; and the former are again, in regard to gluttony, beyond all compariſon exceeded by the Mongolian nations.

Here paſs by the Oriental nations, neither ſhall I collect together the univerſal teſtimony of travellers concerning the gluttony of each particular Sclavonian nation, the Poles, the Illyrians, Moldavians, and Wallachians. I confine myſelf principally to the Ruſſians, becauſe I find the moſt expreſs and accurate accounts of them in writers of the higheſt credit, ſufficient to convince every one that the gluttony of the other Non-Sclavonian nations was never ſo great as among the common Ruſſians.

When the elder Gmelin was on his travels through Siberia, between the years 1733 and 1743, there happened no religious feſtival, no civil anniverſary, no family entertainment, which was not celebrated by all who aſſiſted at them by a general intoxication. This rage for drinking in the Ruſſians of Siberia, Gmelin knew not how to compare to any thing but a contagious burning fever, that attacked every age and rank and ſex, which, though it had its intervals, ſoon returned at ſtated periods, with equal, or increaſed fury. This drinking fever always broke out more violently and univerſally on the high feſtivals, and there-

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fore alſo in the Chriſtmas week. From Chriſtmas to the Epiphany, and frequently for a week longer, it was extremely rare to ſee a perſon ſober. The Siberians were not ſatisfied with being intoxicated once a day, but the drinking and the riot continued night and day almoſt inceſſantly. During all this time it was not poſſible, either by intreaties or bribes, or by any other means, but open violence, to induce artificers and labourers to work, and when the travellers arrived at any place on this or any the like drinking feſtival, their ſoldiers, and the reſt of their attendants, notwithſtanding all the threats they could employ, got drunk as immoderately and continually as the inhabitants of the place, and they had nothing to do but to wait there in patience till the paroxyſm was over. Not only men, but women likewiſe, frequently drink themſelves to death; and it is aſſirmed by Bruce, that in what is called the Butter-week, ſcldom a morning paſſes in Moſcow, but from ten to twelve perſons are found dead in the ſtreets, who have fallen down, and been frozen. Of ſuch mortal intoxications we can the leſs doubt, on reading that a ſingle boor will frequently drink in one day brandy to the amount of five rubles. (about 22s. 6d.)

Not leſs licentious than the Chriſtmas week, were the Butter-week, as it is called, or the week before Lent, the Laſſer week, every ſaint's day, every harveſt or threſhing feaſt, every conſecration of a church, and all other ſolemn occaſions. Such feſtivals and ſolemnities often followed ſo cloſe on each other, that they were drunk for a whole month together, particularly in October, from one feſtival to another. At theſe times, when the Ruſſians of Siberia were once fallen into this rage, it coſt them inexpreſſible efforts to return to their uſual way of life, and to be completely drunk only once in about every four days.

The ordinary liquor for this purpoſe, uſed by the Ruſſians of Siberia, is bad brandy, and when this is wanting, a ſort of beer, which they frequently render more inebriating by infuſing a handful of the *ephedra monoſtachya*. This herb has the peculiar property of producing ſuch a ſurpriſing intoxication, that thoſe who are drunk with it continue ſinging and capering till they fall down to the ground. When the brandy or the beer is all out, they then guzzle down the dregs, as every thing is of a good taſte to them that does but fill.

The viceroy and governor in great towns, and, after their example, the ſubgovernor and ſecretary, let no court-holiday, and no namesday or birthday, in their own family, paſs unſolemniſed. To ſuch feſtivities, not only the officers, and the higher and lower orders of the clergy, but likewiſe the moſt conſiderable perſons in trade are invited. To the former, the moſt choice foreign wines are ſerved in abundance; but to the latter, only mead is preſented inſtead of wine, and yet no merchant goes away from table without leaving upon it half a ruble, or a ruble, for the honour of having been feaſted at ſo noble a board, by which cuſtom the expences of the entertainment are greatly diminiſhed. At the tables of the inferior *voivodes* the brandy is drunk, not out of common wine glaſſes, but large *ſtoikans* or tumblers, and whoever at ſuch banquets has been the moſt beaſtly in his drinking, and in his behaviour, has a rich preſent ſent him the following day. Drunkenneſs there, at this preſent day, is ſo little diſgraceful, that it is not taken amiſs even in ladies of the beſt breeding. It is not long ago, that not only common people, but princes and ladies of quality, when ſick, would drink whole goblets of brandy inſtead of the water preſcribed them by the phyſician.

The generality of our readers would

ſcarcely believe that the Ruſſians can be outdone in drinking by other nations: but they will think quite otherwiſe when they ſhall have read the following accounts of the exceſſes of the Negroes and Americans.

All travellers are agreed herein, that, among the negroes, not only men, but alſo women and children have an unſurmountable propenſity to ſtrong liquors. In Africa, palm wine, and eſpecially European brandy, and in the Weſt Indies, rum, are their favourite drinks. For procuring European brandy, kings ſell their ſubjects, huſbands their wives, and parents their children for ſlaves to the Europeans. When they have obtained this water of life, or fire-water, as they call it, they ſeldom leave it till they have ſeen the end of it. Thus, a negroe-king continued uninterruptedly drinking for ſix days and nights, without taking the leaſt food. The negroes uſually aſſemble every afternoon in certain public buildings appropriated to that purpoſe, and fuddle themſelves either in brandy, or for want of it, in palm-wine. When the firſt calls of thirſt are ſilenced, and the head begins to grow warm, they order the wine to be brought in bottles holding one or two quarts, and continue drinking as long as there is any left. In theſe drunken carouſals, women, and even children of three or four years old take part, as the capacity of drinking a great deal is eſteemed an honourable art. Formerly, the drunkard, who wanted to make a figure, let two-thirds of the wine run down his beard. If, during their ſenſeleſs intoxication, they commit murder, or any other act of violence, they, with the utmoſt compoſure, take no blame to themſelves, but lay the fault on the wine or the brandy.

The Americans, beyond all other nations of their kind, juſtify the remark, that the ſlow and ſtupid ſavages have never ſhown greater ingenuity than in the diſcovery of the art of making inflammatory liquors. There is hardly any eatable fruit, or root, or plant, from which they have not learnt the method of preparing an intoxicating drink; and many of the wildeſt ſavages had, previous to the arrival of the Europeans, invented from ſix to nine ſeveral kinds of ſtrong liquors. The moſt univerſal drink of the original Americans, is that which bears the name of *chica*, which indeed is prepared a great many different ways, but the moſt uſual is from maize, or Turkiſh wheat. Some ſoak the maize in water, even in feculent water. But commonly it is chewed by old women, and as often by young children, who ſpit it out altogether into a veſſel, where it is left ſtanding till the whole maſs has fermented. The Americans give ſeveral reaſons why the maize is beſt chewed, and why this maſtication ſhould be performed by old women and young children. Namely, they pretend that it is a common obſervation, that the chica never more perfectly ferments. Even the Europeans accuſtom themſelves to the chica prepared in this manner; yet they would take care not to drink it, if a living toad were thrown in and diſſolved in it, as Cage ſaw done with his own eyes among the Indians of Guatimala.

When the Americans have prepared a due quantity of this chica, they invite their friends to a jovial drinking-bout. Indeed, there are particular diſtricts where the women abſtain from drinking at theſe ſcenes of riot, and when their huſbands have had enough, carefully to put them to reſt; but uſually the women and children take part, like the men, in theſe drunken frolics, and the women even give a good doze of chica to their children at the breaſt. When the Americans have once begun to carouſe, they obſerve no bounds, but drink till they fall, bereft of their ſenſes, on the earth. The drunkards reſiſt with all their might any attempts to carry them off, and return with a kind of fury

fury to the field of battle: and this, says Ulloa, is not peculiar to Americans of any particular districts, but in this they are every where alike. The most violent vomitings not only do not in the least abate the drunken rage of the Americans, but rather inflame it more; and when they are relieved, and somewhat refreshened by it, they fall to it again with redoubled avidity. Such drinking-bouts last not only three or four days, during which every American drinks as much as would fill a large cask, but at times, for ten or fifteen days, nay, for three or four months, almost without intermission. When any one falls, there he remains, whether in a heavy shower of rain or in a morass, or in a heap of filth, till he comes to himself, without letting any thing disturb him. When a man feels the burning heat too excessive, he makes great wounds in his head, in the temples, or the breast, or sticks a knife in the calf of the leg, in order to ease himself a little from the consuming fire by a copious loss of blood. It almost always happens that some of them die from the excessive draughts they have taken; and still more frequently that they come to bloody conflicts, in which several are either killed or wounded. All acts of manslaughter and maiming committed in fits of drunkenness, appear to the Americans as perfectly innocent, and are never revenged, either by the magistrate, or by the relations, or even by the wounded person himself.

Ever since the American savages have been acquainted with European brandy, or with the rum prepared by Europeans, their eagerness after intoxication is much increased by a new incentive. They themselves confess that the fire-water kills them before their time, that it reduces them to poverty, that it undermines their activity and vigour; but they add, that it is impossible for them to abstain from it, and complain of the Europeans for having introduced among them so dangerous and irresistible a liquor. For procuring brandy in South America, they sell all they have, even their wives and children; and in northern Louisiana it has often happened, that the most faithful, and to all appearance the most sensible Indians, have murdered their masters at the chase, only for the sake of getting possession of his brandy-bottle. The laborious Indians who work in the Spanish mines, expend in a few hours in rum the half of the money that is paid them every Sunday; and in the same manner, the other Americans, women as well as men, throw away all, or the greatest part of the money they earn, and are therefore obliged to put up with the most wretched habitations, the vilest food, and the poorest covering. When they have drunk out their stock of brandy, they beg the Europeans, with tears in their eyes, to give them more bitter water, or demand it with the utmost assurance. In Peru, an Indian drank to the amount of seven pesos, or thirteen bottles of rum, in a very few hours, without feeling any other effects from it but a senseless intoxication. Mr Adair, unable to free himself from the importunity of an impudent savage for brandy, gave him a large bottle of pepper-water. The American drank of this fiery distillation till he was almost suffocated. He was as little dismayed, however, by these painful effects, as another was after a merry-making, though from the violent agitation of his stomach and bowels he fell breathless on the ground. When both had somewhat recovered, they broke out in extravagant praises of the powerful water and the bountiful donor. Another time Mr Adair was so long persecuted by a savage for brandy, that he was at last obliged to give him a quart of the strongest spirit of turpentine. The American presently gulped it down, began to foam at the mouth, and fell senseless to the ground, but was in a few days quite recovered by the hot-bath and cooling drinks.

Though it is agreed by all travellers that brandy and the ſmall-pox have committed more ravages in America than the ſword of the Europeans, yet it is no leſs certain that numberleſs Americans can be guilty of the moſt prodigious exceſſes in drinking, without getting pleuriſies, or other ſickneſſes, the uſual attendants on that practice with us. With all their debauches, as Frazer informs us, they will reach to the age of a hundred years; and, without being balled or grey headed, numbers are ſeen that are a hundred and twenty, or a hundred and thirty, or even of a greater age.

The foregoing facts are ſufficient to convince every one, that the propenſity of the Negroes and Americans to intoxicating liquors is of a kind altogether different from the licentiouſneſs in that reſpect of European nations; and that the former as much exceed the latter in their activity for inflamatory liquors, as in the capacity of drinking them in ſuch quantities as would infallibly coſt any European his life.

From a Foreign Journal.

CAUSES ASSIGNED FOR THE POPULARITY OF NOVELS.

SIR,

THERE is no ſpecies of writing that has been more popular among young readers ſince its firſt appearance, than the *Novel* or *Romance*, and I have not been able to diſcover a better reaſon for the high favour in which ſuch compoſitions are held, than the tameneſs and inſipidity of common life and common events. Tired of this, we firſt betake ourſelves to the page of hiſtory, but here, although we occaſionally meet with incidents that are ſurprizing, there is in general a forbidding gravity and dignity in the ſtile and manner in which they are related; and for the moſt part hiſtory is employed on the actions and adventures of heroes, kings and ſtateſmen, a claſs of perſons with which we are but little acquainted, and in whoſe ſucceſs young perſons feel but little intereſt.

Finding, therefore, but ſcanty amuſement in theſe grave and regular performances, where it is abſolutely neceſſary that nothing ſhould be related but what is true, and no ornaments appended which did not belong to the original fact, we fly for relief from the tameneſs of real life to the compoſitions called *Novels*. In them we find common things related in an uncommon way, which is preciſely the remedy we have been ſeeking to vary our amuſements. Inſtead, for example, of a young couple walking regularly to church to be married, with their parent's conſent and their parents walking regularly with them (an incident ſo common as to occaſion little or no notice) we have a pair of true lovers concealing from each other what they both are deſirous to reveal, thwarted in their affection by cruel fathers and mothers, or guardians, beſet with ſpies, their letters intercepted, rooms turned into priſons, and if an eſcape, uſually called an elopement, be practicable, windows are turned into doors, and a ladder becomes a ſtair-caſe; poſt horſes are furniſhed with wings, and poſt-boys of the true Hounſlow-breed are converted into cupids, while an old battered chaiſe is an Hymeneal car.

It is this art of making much out of little that reconciles us to a courſe of novel-reading. We find how tame and inſipid real life is: we awake in the morning, dreſs ourſelves, go out ſhopping or viſiting, and return in perfect unity to the ſame employments or amuſements this day, that we returned to yeſterday, and which will probably engage our time to-morrow. It is not remarkable, therefore, if young and active ſpirits become tired of a routine ſo dull and unvarying, and are deſirous of ad-

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ventures which may diſtinguiſh them from the common herd of neighbours, and give employment for town-talk. Such are to be found in novels, where in the morning, the hero or heroine is waked by the ſoft melody of a lute under the window, and immediately upon the window being opened, the ſound is loſt, and no perſon appears! —In theſe worlds of new creation, if a young lady ventures to walk beyond the limits of her father's domains, ſhe is either ſeduced by the "falſe flattering tongue" of ſome gay and gallant Lothario, into a poſt-chaiſe, or more rudely forced into one by a band of ruffians with maſks on their faces, and drawn ſwords in their hands. Not an hour paſſes without ſome incident of this kind, ſo that if the real world was like the world of romance, we might ſay of the metropolis, with a learned juſtice who has written on the police, "that there are many thouſands in it who, when they get up in the morning, cannot tell what ſhall befall them in the courſe of the day, or where they ſhall ſleep at night." For ſuch is the ever-varying fate of thoſe who live under the diſpenſations of a romantic imagination.

It might, however, be worth while to enquire, whether the events of romantic life are capable of being realized without danger and diſappointment. We are not quite certain that youth is to be divided into *three* or *four volumes*, and whatever errors or crimes may be committed, to end in a happy marriage and a great fortune in the *laſt*. Elopements, indeed, have been tried, and they have ſerved to vary the common routine of being married at church, or married by a license, but it has not been found that ſuch marriages have proved more happy than the old faſhioned kind—on the contrary, it has been found that after a few months or weeks, the parties have been plunged into a ſtate of life more dull and inſipid than before, and which has ended, in more than one recent inſtance, in certain adventures which have led the parties into a ſeparation as *romantic*, and out of the common way, as the elopement itſelf. It muſt, therefore, I am afraid, be concluded, that however amuſing the adventures of Novel perſonages are, we ought to be very cautious how we attempt to perform them in real life. Our laws unfortunately are not compoſed upon the ſyſtem of romance, and I know not where a collection of more ſtern and ſevere critics can be found, than in the courts of King's bench, Doctor's commons, and the Old Bailey. The Lord Chancellor, too, I am ſorry to add, is a gentleman of that peculiar way of thinking, as to conſider a door the propereſt part of a houſe for a young lady to walk out at, a ſtair-caſe a more becoming mode of deſcending than a ladder of ropes, and fathers, mothers, or guardians, the beſt adepts at explaining or anſwering the contents of a billet-doux. This may probably be owing to his lordſhip's want of taſte, but it is a want of taſte that has been very common among gentlemen learned in the law for many years.

But notwithſtanding the great pains that have been taken in many hundred late novels, to give a turn and a variety to love-affairs, by every mode of croſs-purpoſes, and hair-breadth eſcapes, there muſt be a termination even to theſe, and the common adventures of novels were actually becoming as inſipid as the progreſs of real life, when a bold and ſucceſsful attempt was lately made to enliven theſe narratives by a certain propoſition of murders, ghoſts, clanking chains, dead bodies, ſkeletons, old caſtles, and damp dungeons. Happily for thoſe who are tired with themſelves and all around them, this attempt produced a number of imitations, and we now rarely ſee a novel that is not entirely compoſed of the

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terrific materials above enumerated. Murder is certainly a very fruitful topic: it can be contrived in ſo many ways, and if we once return to the old-faſhioned belief in ghoſts, it is incredible with what eaſe we may increaſe our ſtock of perſonages; for every one mentioned in the work may have a ghoſt, and living or dead, we may in this way exactly double our amuſement. We may truly ſay with Macbeth,

—— The times have been,
That, when the brains were out, the man would die,
And there an end: but now, they riſe again,
With twenty mortal murders on their crowns,
And puſh us from our ſtools——

And ſurely it is no wonder if our timid females are puſhed from their ſtools in reading the "horrid, barbarous and bloody murders" that are now ſerved up for their *amuſement*.

Amuſement! did I ſay?—Yes, certainly, for their *amuſement*. This is the moſt favourable conjecture, for ſurely it never could have entered into the brain of any writer of this deſcription, that our lovely females wanted *inſtruction* how to commit or avoid murders. Amuſement it therefore muſt be, and certainly is amuſement of a very ſingular kind, ſuch as appears to me to be very incompatible with tenderneſs of frame, or purity of mind. What ſhould we think if a lady, who had the command of an extenſive library, ſhould ranſack the indexes, and reject every page but that which contained an account of a murder? A queſtion then very naturally ariſes, Why are works entirely compoſed of murders conſidered as moſt certain of being peruſed? The anſwer to this queſtion, I ſhall leave to my readers, and content myſelf with hoping that the preſent faſhion, like all departures from nature and common ſenſe, will have but a ſhort reign.

Still muſt I revert to my original thought, that a miſtaken notion of the dullneſs and ſameneſs of common life ſo often ſends us for relief to the regions of fiction, and if we go there merely upon the principle of amuſement, we ſhall derive no diſadvantage from peruſing the moſt claſſical productions of this deſcription: but beyond that, I ſuſpect we ſhall often be deluded by eſtimates of human life and happinnſs that are calculated upon falſe foundations. The days of youth are certainly days of curioſity, and if that is directed to proper objects around us, we ſhall not find that real life is ſo devoid of variety as we imagined, or that there is any abſolute neceſſity for relieving our minds by fabulous narratives. The page of hiſtory to him whoſe mind has not been weakened by a courſe of ſuperficial reading, will contain more variety and entertainment, than the utmoſt ſtretch of fiction could have produced, and we ſhall have the ſuperior ſatisfaction in reflecting that the inſtruction we receive is well grounded, and that the events which ſurpriſe us are always true, or at leaſt probable. Where they are doubtful, the hiſtorian's ſuſpicions prevent our being deceived. This, added to an attentive obſervation of the ſcenes around us, will ſtore the mind with reflections of an infinite variety, and far greater utility than are to be derived from the wild narratives of the imagination, and we ſhall ſoon be enabled to conclude, upon the ſureſt grounds, that he to whom real life appears dull, muſt himſelf be a man of dull capacity.

I am, ſir, yours, &c.

CLIO.

ON THE ETYMOLOGY OF THE WORD *ROW*.

SIR,

AS I do not perceive so much philological or etymological discussion in your miscellany as I could wish, and as in my humble opinion nothing tends more than such to advance true philosophical knowledge, as they go to the root of the matter, you will forgive me for troubling you with the following:

I have for some time past pondered the probable etymology of the word *Row*: I have watched it from a precarious existence of its present flourishing condition, and shall trouble you with the derivation which I in my great wisdom have ascribed to it. And here I cannot but lament the many egregious blunders which have crept into the works of our best poets by the ignorance of transcribers, the inattention of printers, and the vanity of commentators. An instance, to confirm this assertion, occurs in that celebrated scene in Henry the Fourth, in which the Monarch *rows* the Prince of Wales for the irregularity of his conduct, and concludes with this prophetic exclamation:

O my poor kingdom, sick with civil blows!
When that my care could not withstand thy *rowing*,
What wilt thou do, now *rowing* is thy care?
O thou wilt be a wilderness again,
Peopled with wolves, thy old inhabitants!

Thus stood the text in the former editions, as I am informed from unquestionable authority. In the later ones the word *rowing* is altered to *riot*; but I think the strength of the passage is thereby much impaired. The Editor might have had his eye on Judge Blackstone, who in his Commentaries gives the same explanation to *riot* and *rout*, though I do not recollect his using the word *row*. But surely, with all due deference to the learned Judge, the modern acceptation of the word *rout* is very different, nor can I think that Shakspeare, however he might have objected to scenes of riot, would have made King Henry lament the depravity of his son in frequenting *routs*, a diversion perfectly harmless and insipid. As to the objection raised by some, that *riot* and *row* cannot mean the same, as they differ in the letters and syllables, I make light of that, and have only, by way of example, to draw their attention to the celebrated *row* in Homer's Iliad between Agamemnon and the Priest of Apollo, when the latter, full of grief and vexation,

"Ἧι δ' ἀχέων παρὰ θῖνα πολυφλοίσβοιο θαλάσσης,"

Had Homer written in prose instead of verse, he would certainly have metamorphosed πολυφλοίσβοιο into πολυφλοισθέν, which I hold to be a sufficient answer to those cavillers who would restrain men in their derivations, by chaining them down to letters and syllables: trifles, which a true etymologist always overlooks with contempt.

But the vanity of commentators or transcribers is not the only thing to be complained of. There is, as Mr D'Israeli observes, something which the reader must bring with him in perusing a book: judgment and taste are indispensably necessary; and as there are many words spelt alike whose meaning widely differs, the reader ought to observe the context with a diligent eye. Thus the word *read* is written the same in the present and in the past tense. *Fly* may signify a winged insect, or part of a *Jack*. *Jack* itself is sometimes a roaster of meat, and at others a contraction of *John*, a *knave*, a *Japan mug*, or an *instrument to draw off boots*. A *Cat* is an animal for killing vermin, and for keeping roast warm. *Buffon* may denote a *natural philosopher*, a *Merry Andrew*, or a *Lady's veil*; while

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while the word *let* signifies both to *hinder* and *suffer*; and *vice* may be found alike in a royal palace, or a blacksmith's shop; with a hundred other examples that might be cited. Now, Sir, mark the inference I draw from the above observations: In making the letters R O W ſignify a *collection of houſes or other bodies adjoining each other*, the word has often been completely miſtaken; yet I affirm, that in numberleſs places it means *row* and *confuſion*; of which I will give you a few inſtances:

In an old Engliſh Ballad, written to celebrate the feaſt given by Robin Hood to the Yeomen of Kent, you will find the following lines:

"The good prieſts were fo gay,
All glittering in a row."

Is it imagined that the word here ſignifies that the porringers were placed in regular order? No ſuch thing. It means, on the contrary, that both parties, the Centaurs and Lapithæ of old, *got into a row*, and threw the porringers at each others heads. "Glittering in a row," that is flying through the air in all directions; a noble way of concluding a feaſt: and which certain clubs of the preſent day, with a view to antiquity, conſtantly practiſe. But to mention, [illegible] literally tranſlated from Horace, Book I. Ode [illegible]

[illegible]

Another inſtance occurs in that elegant poem, the Rape of the Lock:

[illegible]

Can we ſuppoſe that the poet meant a literal reference to the order in which the locks fell? Certainly not. The poet by this forcible expreſſion meant to avail himſelf of the common poetical licence of taking the effect for the cauſe, and alluded to the *rows* which the young gentlemen of his time were fond of promoting in the playhouſe. A further teſtimony in favour of this conſtruction will be found by looking over the firſt Prologue or Epilogue, that comes to hand, wherein the reader will probably find the author, in a ſtrain of pſeudomodeſty, deprecating the vengeance of the "*row* of critics in the pit." *To kick up a row* on the firſt night of a new play, has ever been ſuch a favourite diverſion with thoſe inſpired youths, ſurnamed critics, that we cannot be ſurpriſed at finding the poor author proteſting againſt ſuch injurious conduct. I remember, while the Drury Lane Company were performing at the Opera Houſe, theſe Sages had a ſeparate enclоſure (emphatically called a *row*) ſet apart for them cloſe to the orcheſtra, and I heartily lament that they do not now poſſeſs ſo valuable a privilege, as without being conſpicuous, their merit cannot be properly rewarded; but to return to the ſubject of my letter.

The obſervation of Lavater, that the violent paſſions of the mind are always accompanied by ſome correſponding motion of the body, is exemplified in the conteſt of the bookſellers in the Dunciad,

With arms expanded Bernard *rows* in ſtate,
And left leg Jacob ſeems to emulate.

And is moreover an additional inſtance of the truth of my hypotheſis. A further confirmation of which may be found in the following line, extracted from the ſame poem,

The diſtant *rows* are hurl'd with mugs of
nium.

Thus the good-natured fellows of the preſent day are ſaid to "make up a *row* over a bottle." Nay, Sir, ſo powerful is my conjecture, that it "*roweth* in the ſtreets." Paternoſter Row is not ſo called from the order of

of the houſes, but from being the reſidence of bookſellers (*a noiſy* trade), and many of them producing publications ſingularly adapted for *making a row*. Middle Row, Holborn, may take its name partly from the ſame cauſe, and partly from its ſituation; while Butcher Row was formerly, in all probability, the chief reſort of butchers, a race of men of acknowledged *rowing* notoriety.

I will here obſerve, *en paſſant*, that the ſimile in ſacred writ and elſewhere, "as joyous as a roe upon the mountains," is evidently mutilated by tranſcribers, and means "a *row* upon the mountains;" that is, as free as that ſtate in which men break from the bonds of ſociety, and "live a rent charge upon Providence." Inſtances of this predilection for ſavage life are by no means rare; but may be gathered from the writings of the ancients, as well as from the accounts of thoſe whoſe habitations border on the ſavage tribes of America.

I will not, Mr Editor, deny the exultation with which I looked back upon my paſt labours, and my full confidence that no opponent could deſtroy the well cemented fabric. But, alas! while thus high in fancied excellence, I met with a publication that in a moment overſet my boaſted diſcoveries, and ſet me again afloat on the ocean of uncertainty. An ingenious antiquary of my acquaintance happened to have at my houſe a ſort of diary, called "England pervaded, by Hugh Cummings, Gent." It was publiſhed, as appears by the title-page, in the year 1687. The work is voluminous, and my evil ſtars led me to that part of it which deſcribes the voyage of the author from London Bridge to Graveſend, in company with four other men. The following extract I have modernized a little, and ſhall tranſcribe: "Now it happened that Richard Brockleſby, Charles Turner, Edward Fiſher, Humphrey Cade, and myſelf, had not gone the diſtance which one may ſhoot with an arrow, when we loſt our rudder, in deſpight of our endeavours to the contrary. In this evil plight we agreed to ſteady the boat by our own ſkill (under Providence), and Humphrey Cade was to hold his oar out of the water, while Richard Brockleſby, Charles Turner, Edward Fiſher, and myſelf, went warily on. But it ſo fell out, that Humphrey Cade, being ſubdued with ſtrong liquors, inſiſted upon *putting his oar* into the water, in deſpight of our admonitions oftentimes, repeated. Whereat we the other four, being vexed, impoſed a grievous penalty upon him, no leſs than making him tug at the oar alone, while we looked merrily on, and lent no aid to our fellow. With which *rowing* he was ſo completely exhauſted, that out of tender pity, &c. &c."

Thus far Mr Hugh Cummings; and I muſt own that I always before thought that, in reſearches like theſe, "Nous trouvons toujours quelque choſe qui ne nous deplaiſt pas." This event however altered my opinion, by giving ſo rude a ſhock to my darling hypotheſis. For is it not obvious, that the above extract explains the expreſſions "rowing" and "putting in an oar." Don't *put in your oar!*" cried a fiſh-woman the other day in my hearing, addreſſing herſelf to a mediating barber; "or egad I'll give you a good *rowing*."

I immediately ſuppoſed that the good woman had peruſed the diary of Mr Hugh Cummings, but upon examination I found ſhe could not read. In this doubtful ſtate does the etymology of *row* at preſent ſtand. So equal is the evidence on either ſide, that I ſhall not attempt to determine the queſtion, but leave it to the conſideration of your readers. I will here take occaſion to obſerve, that the race of *rowers* is conſiderably diminiſhed; they no longer flouriſh as in the Spectator's time; our political *rowers* are, by two

late acts of parliament, unfortunately silenced, and were it not for the patriotic efforts of a few generous Hibernians, I believe the race would soon become utterly extinct. I shall now trespass upon your patience no longer.

I am, &c.

SCRIBLERUS.

THOUGHTS ON SPRING.

THERE is no season of the year so delightful to our feelings, so attuned to harmony, and so invigorating to the constitution, as the time of spring. It is at that period of the year nature again resumes her verdure; the winter, that has so long desolated the country, retires by degrees, and, like a conquered general, can no longer keep the field against its more vigorous opponent. The ploughshare once more breaks the ground; the husbandman again sows his corn, in joyful expectation of the harvest; the birds renew their songs, and, in short, all nature is in exultation at the pleasing change.

The ancient poets seemed to have had a very high opinion of this season of the year; and Ovid, in his description of the golden age, tells us, there was at that time no vicissitudes of the seasons; the earth was blest with an everlasting spring, and the gentle zephyrs cherished the flowers, which shot forth without being sown.

Ver erat æternum, placidique tepentibus auris
Mulcebant zephyri natos sine semine flores.

Mahomet too, amongst the many other blessings he proposes to bestow on his faithful followers in the gardens of paradise, promises them an eternal spring: and whether it be that after the cold blasts and piercing winds of winter, we feel the contrast with greater pleasure; or whether it be that this season of the year, independent of our present sensations, is actually the most agreeable, or whatever be the cause, certain it is we unanimously rejoice at its approach, and look forward to it with the most eager expectation.

But still no considerate person can agree either with Mahomet or Ovid that a never ending spring would be sufficient to content us.—Man is always restless in his present situation; he delights to anticipate events, and his chief happiness consists in his imagination.—When he has no particular object to look forward to, his mind naturally becomes languid and uneasy; and even the serene sky, and the verdant colouring of spring, would in a short time disgust, when he knew it was to continue for ever. Charmed with variety, and endowed with a disposition desirous of change, the gentle breeze and the refreshing zephyr would but nauseate; and perhaps we should hear those very poets who are now such enthusiastic admirers of the purling rivulet, and the moss-covered fountain, extolling the happiness of the Laplander, and sighing for a fur cloak, a rein deer carriage, and a country covered with snow:—so true it is,

Our very wishes give us not our wish.

YOUNG.

Besides, it might easily be proved the pleasure we feel at the approach of spring is as much in the *novelty* that accompanies it, as any peculiar charm of the season itself. It comes after a sharp winter has desolated the country, and we are delighted with the contrast. It is followed by the burning heat of summer, and we naturally sigh at the alteration; but if ever this admirable order of things were to be inverted; was the summer to become less hot, or the winter warmer, our favourite season would lose its accustomed beauty; and man, changeable

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man, would conſider that as a misfortune in which he now places his chief happineſs. The allegories drawn from the different ſeaſons of the year are generally very beautiful; indeed there can be nothing more deſcriptive of our ſituation in the world. When exerciſe braces our limbs, and novelty gives us a zeſt to every pleaſure; when the eye ſparkles with delight, and the unſatiated imagination darts forward to anticipate futurity—then are we in the ſpring of our being. Our maturer age and ſtronger underſtanding is depicted by the ſummer—we are then in the meridian of our career, and at the zenith of our ambition. Autumn characterizes us with lingering ſteps, gravely treading down the hill.

And pale concluding winter comes at laſt
And ſhuts the ſcene.

Oh ye! who are in the ſpring of your years, and whoſe countenance glow with health, now is the important ſeaſon of your lives. Now, while your ideas are ſtrong, and your imagination vigorous, accumulate with diligence thoſe ſtores of uſeful knowledge which will be the only ſolace of your autumnal years.

EXTIRPATION OF THE SMALL-POX.

Professor Faust, of Buckeburg, in Weſtphalia, is ſaid to be occupied in a plan for the entire extirpation of the ſmall pox. He conſiders it as a ſimple epidemic diſeaſe, whoſe duration and prolongation are the effect only of ignorance in the people, and indifference in governments, and that it ought to be made to diſappear like the leproſy. He points out the way by which he conceives this daily ſcourge of the human race, ſaid to ſweep away one twelfth of the population of Europe, may be removed. In ſhort, the profeſſor is deſirous to perſuade the legiſlators of the different ſtates of Europe, that by a conſentaneous act of authority they might decree the extinction of the ſmall pox as eaſily as France decreed the abolition of royalty.

A ſociety has alſo been formed of more than a hundred and fifty phyſicians, German, Dutch, and Swiſs, who have ſolemnly engaged unitedly and perſonally to employ all their energy for ſtopping the ravages of the ſmall-pox and meaſles.

While we muſt applaud theſe benevolent ſchemes forming on the continent, we muſt at the ſame time congratulate the good fortune of this iſland, in being the ſeat of a diſcovery which will, perhaps, effect more towards eradicating the ſmall-pox than all the well meant projects of the German profeſſors. In our No. for January, page 44, we gave a ſhort account of this diſcovery of innoculation with Cow Pox, from the treatiſe of Dr Jenner. Recent and numerous experiments made by the moſt eminent of the faculty in London, tend to confirm the efficacy of the Cow Pox, as a means of extirpating that horrible ſcourge of the human race, the Small Pox. Several hundred individuals have recently been innoculated for this new diſeaſe in the metropolis, and they have all taken it, and recovered from it in a few days, without its being attended by any illneſs, other than a few puſtules which have appeared in the arm: theſe perſons have ſince been repeatedly innoculated with the varioleus matter of the ſmall-pox, but without effect; ſeveral of them have even ſlept in the ſame bed with perſons in the moſt infectious ſtate of the latter diſorder, but without being in any degree affected by it.

SWALLOWS SLEEPING ALL WINTER.

ALBINOVANUS, in the elegant elegy which he wrote on the death of Mæcenas, deſcribes the ſwallows retiring to the rocks as a ſign of the approach of winter.

Conglaciantur aquæ, ſcopulis ſe condit hirundo:
Verberat egelidos garrula, vere lacus.
Froſt binds the ſtreams, in rocks the ſwallows lie:
In ſpring to cooling ſtreams they twittering fly.

In Sweden ſwallows paſs the winter under the ice. At the approach of winter they plunge themſelves into the lakes, and remain there, buried and aſleep, till the ſpring returns. On feeling the warmth of the ſun, they emerge and take wing. While the lakes are frozen, if the ice be broken where it appears moſt black, large heaps of ſwallows are ſeen, lying buried aſleep, and half dead. On taking them out, and carrying them near the fire, or chafing them between the hands, they will revive and make a quick uſe of their wings. The common people entertain an opinion that the lakes of Sweden have a power of changing the leaves which fall upon them in the autumn into ſwallows. In other places, ſwallows conceal themſelves in caverns, or under rocks. Between the town of Caen and the ſea, along the river Orme, there are many caverns, where cluſters of ſwallows are found hanging in the form of grapes. —A correſpondent wiſhes to know if theſe are factsto be depended on.

S.

AGRICULTURAL IMPROVEMENT.

IT has been commonly ſuppoſed by farmers, that ſeeds and plants will degenerate, unleſs the ground on which they are planted be frequently changed. Some obſervations and experiments that have been lately made in this country, as well as in America, ſeem to render the truth of this ſuppoſition doubtful. It has been found here, that even potatoes may be conſtantly grown on the ſame piece of ground without any degeneration, provided the cuttings be always made from the fineſt potatoes, inſtead of the ſmalleſt and worſt, which have actually been employed for this purpoſe; and in America, it has been ſhewn, by the actual experiments of Mr Cooper, that the ſame thing happens with reſpect to the ſeeds of the long watery ſquaſh, early peaſe, potatoes, and ſeveral other kinds of vegetables. The ſame principle has, indeed, long ago been applied in the breeding of animals, by Mr Bakewell. It is generally known, that he improved his breeds by merely coupling thoſe in which the properties he wiſhed to produce were the moſt evident, not regarding conſanguinity, or any other circumſtance.

This is a matter of ſuch extenſive application and importance, that it ought more particularly to engage the attention and obſervation of the practical farmer as well as the horticulturiſt.

In the application of manures to lands, too little regard ſeems to have been paid both in reſpect to its nature, and the time of its being laid on. In regard to the laſt, it has been a common practice for farmers to apply manures to graſs lands during the time of froſt in the winter. This is certainly an improper practice, as during ſuch periods, no advantage can be derived to the land from it, and, at the thaw, much of its virtues muſt be waſhed away, and its ſoluble parts be deſtroyed; the ground being, in this ſtate, incapable of abſorbing liquids. Many other reaſons forbid this practice, which may be ſeen in an ingenious paper written by Dr Fenwick. He conceives, that as the elaſtic fluids are the greateſt ſupports of vegetation, manures ought to be applied under circumſtances that favour their generation. Theſe, he ſays, chiefly occur in ſpring, after the graſs has, in ſome de-

degree, covered the ground, by which the dung is ſhaded from the ſun, or early in the autumn, after the hay crop is removed. This laſt is unqueſtionably the moſt convenient, and leaſt objectionable period for the purpoſe in queſtion.

STATE PAPERS.

MANIFESTO *of the King of Naples.*

BEFORE the commencement of hoſtilities, his Majeſty publiſhed the following affecting Manifeſto to his loving Subjects:

San Germano, Nov. 22, 1798.

"Dear, Faithful, and Beloved Subjects,

"AFTER having, for almoſt forty years, exerted every effort to render you happy, and to ſucceour you in all the calamities which it has pleaſed God to ſend you, I am now about to leave my beloved Country, for the ſole purpoſe of defending our Holy Religion, almoſt overthrown, to re-animate the divine worſhip, and to ſecure to you and to your children the enjoyment of the bleſſings which the Lord has given you. If I had been ſure of attaining that object by any other ſacrifice, believe me, I ſhould not have heſitated a moment to prefer that alternative; but what hopes could be entertained of ſucceſs after the many fatal examples with which you are well acquainted? I ſet out therefore at the head of the brave defenders of their country, full of confidence in the Lord of Hoſts, who will guide our ſteps, and protect our operations. I go to brave all danger with the greateſt chearfulneſs becauſe I do it for my fellow-citizens, for my brothers, for my children; for ſuch I have ever conſidered you. Be always faithful to God, and to her whom I leave in my ſtead to conduct the government of theſe ſtates, my dear and well-beloved conſort. I recommend to you then your tender mother; I recommend to you my children, who are not more mine than they are yours. At all events, remember that you are Neapolitans, that thoſe are brave who are willing to exert their courage, and that it is better to die glorioufly for God and our Country, than to live ſhamefully oppreſſed! Meanwhile, may God beſtow upon you all the bleſſings and the happineſs which is the wiſh of him, who is, and while he lives ſhall be, your moſt affectionate Father and Sovereign

FERDINAND."

NOTE *tranſmitted by the Sublime Porte to the Ambaſſador from the Republic of Holland.*

"THE preſent Government of France, entirely diſregarding every law of nations, having adopted as a principle to attack all Powers without diſtinction, whether friends or enemies, and every where to diſſeminate diſturbance and confuſion, in conſequence of this principle they ſecretely prepared the means to ſubjugate Egypt, the moſt valuable province of this ſublime Empire, and which is the gate of the two ſacred and reverend cities, Mecca and Medina. In vain it was officially declared, that if ſuch a project were engaged in, it muſt inevitably produce a ſanguinary war between every Muſſulman nation and France: the Republic ſtill perſiſted in its baſe deſign, ſuddenly attacked, and Egypt was plunged into confuſion and anarchy. The Sublime Porte has in conſequence found itſelf under the abſolute neceſſity of repelling force by force, as it had previouſly and ſolemnly declared to the Directory. All theſe facts, and the meaſures taken by the Sublime Porte, to reſiſt theſe unjuſt and ſhameful proceedings, are of public notoriety. The Republic of Holland is the ancient friend of the Sublime Porte: no cloud until the preſent day had ever overcaſt this friendſhip on either ſide; and it is certain that the Dutch, who maintain a very lucrative commerce with the Ottoman Empire, have always endeavoured, during the time of their independence, to render themſelves agreeable to the Sublime Porte. But ſince the entrance of the French into Holland two parties have ariſen, who ſubmitted to the French, the one voluntarily, and the other by force. The former of theſe, under the phantom

phantom of a perfidious alliance, have ſeized on the maritime force, and all the revenues of the country, which they employ to ruin and plunge it into the moſt diſaſtrous condition. Holland is, therefore, now deprived of its independence, and reduced beneath the yoke of the five French Directors, like the Provinces of France: its inhabitants are in fact become their ſubjects. The Sublime Porte is without doubt animated with the deſire of maintaining its ancient friendſhip with this Republic; but it is evident that the reaſons above alleged render it improper the the Ambaſſador of Holland ſhould continue to reſide near it. He is therefore hereby enjoined to quit this reſidence within a week, and informed, that the ancient amity and moſt perfect good underſtanding will be re-eſtabliſhed between the Sublime Porte and the Republic of Holland, as ſoon as the latter ſhall be ſeparated from the French; a ſeparation which will promote its true intereſts, and reſtore it to its former dignity."

Dated *January* 16, 1799.

REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS.

Memoirs of the Life and Adminiſtration of Sir Robert Walpole, Earl of Orford. With original Correſpondence and authentic Papers, never before publiſhed. By William Coxe M. A. F. R. S. & A. S. Rector of Bemerton. 4to. 3 Vols. 3l. 15s. Boards. Cadell jun. and Davies.

IN a prefatory explanation of the circumſtances which led him to this undertaking, Mr Coxe makes a full diſplay of the ample unpubliſhed materials which have enabled him, in treating the reigns of the firſt and ſecond Kings of the houſe of Hanover, to trace motives of action unknown to former hiſtorians, and to place in a new light the foreign and domeſtic tranſactions of the cabinet. The papers belonging to the different branches of the Walpole and Townſhend families naturally make the principal figure in the liſt; but, anxious to hear thoſe who oppoſed as well as thoſe who ſupported the meaſures of Sir Robert, Mr Coxe applied for and obtained communications of the Stanhope, Middleton, Melcombe, and Egremont papers. Theſe he has private hiſtorians, not omitting a ſingle invective, but leaving the reader to judge between the partial eulogiums of Pulteney and the acrimonious reproaches of Bolingbroke.

Of printed authorities, Mr Coxe ſays that he has principally conſulted Tindal's or rather Birch's continuation of Rapin. He regards Smollet as a careleſs or partial writer, who appears never to have examined the journals, and but ſuperficially to have peruſed the parliamentary debates. Belſham he thinks a convict of Smollet as to facts; although differing from him in ſpeculations. Mr Coxe has not relied on either as an authority.

The prelude to Walpole's merited riſe was his unmerited diſgrace in 1712. He was then impriſoned in the Tower, in conſequence of his zealous defence of the Whig miniſtry, with whom he had acted as a ſecretary at war: and he was at that time of ſo little celebrity, that Swift calls him "*one* Mr Robert Walpole." A few years afterward, (October 1715,) he was appointed Firſt Lord Commiſſioner, of the Treaſury, and Chancellor of the Exchequer.

The principal feature of Walpole's miniſterial character was his love of peace. Next to that, the diſpoſition of which he was moſt diſtinguiſhed was his inclination to counteract the public opinion; of which we have a ſtriking example in his conduct reſpecting the famous exciſe bill in 1733.

While the nation was bent upon making war with Spain in 1739; Walpole's great aim was to maintain peace with all nations. His oppoſition to that war, however, drew down on him much odium and unpopularity from all quarters. The King was eager for hoſtilities. The Duke of Newcaſtle was particularly vehement in ſupporting the contents of a petition, which the merchants had delivered to his Majeſty. The Chancellor, Lord Hardwicke, ſpoke with great eloquence in the Houſe of Lords in favour of compulſory meaſures;

fures; while Walpole, ſtanding behind the throne, exclaimed to thoſe who were near him, "Bravo, Colonel Yorke!" The Earl of Wilmington was always blindly attached to the opinion of the King, and therefore favoured the war. He aſpired to the ſtation of firſt miniſter, and therefore occaſionally thwarted and counteracted Walpole's advice. The ſituation of the miniſter was rendered ſtill more irkſome by the occaſional ill-humour of his Majeſty: of which Mr C. gives the following example,—illuſtrating the precariouſneſs of royal favour, and the mortifications attending the deſcent from miniſterial power:

"Horace Walpole had ſerved, with little interruption, in the quality of envoy, plenipotentiary, or ambaſſador from 1722 to 1739. He had performed his functions with unremitted aſſiduity and addreſs: and had rendered himſelf eminently uſeful in the conduct of foreign affairs. He had been for ſome time weary of his employment, and expreſſed an earneſt deſire to return to England. On the death of Queen Caroline, his ſituation abroad became more difficult. Contradictory orders were occaſionally iſſued from London and Hanover. The opinion and advice which he freely gave, were not always congenial to the King's German prejudices. He incurred diſpleaſure by the frankneſs with which he declared his ſentiments on all occaſions, and the courage with which he oppoſed the petty electoral views, which ſometimes interfered with the grand intereſts of Great Britain and Europe. Frequent bickerings with Lord Harrington, rendered his countenance abroad more and more irkſome, and he realled all the importunities of his brother, enforced by the earneſt repreſentation of the Chancellor, for whom he entertained the higheſt eſteem, and perſevered in his reſolution to retire from the diplomatic line.

"The ſtate of affairs, and temper of the Dutch, who were preſſed by England on one ſide, and by France on the other, required a perſon of great abilities, addreſs, and circumſpection, agreeable to the leading men of the republic, well acquainted with the forms of their complicated conſtitution, and capable of obviating the dilatorineſs of their councils. It was neceſſary alſo, that the ſucceſſor ſhould be attached to the miniſter, and likely to follow the directions of Horace Walpole. Such a perſon was Robert Trevor, ſecond ſon of Lord Trevor, who had, from the commencement of Horace Walpole's embaſſy to the Hague, ſerved in the capacity of private ſecretary, and during his abſence, had acted as charge d'affaires. He was diſtinguiſhed no leſs for his diſcretion than his talents, and his talents were peculiarly intereſting and animated.

"But the King had entertained a violent prejudice againſt Trevor, and though he could not with juſtice or policy object to his nomination, yet he clogged his miſſion with ſo many difficulties as nearly prevented it, and when thoſe difficulties were finally overcome, he poſitively refuſed to confer on him the united character of envoy and plenipotentiary, with the ſalary of eight pounds a day, but inſiſted that he ſhould be only appointed envoy, with a ſalary of no more than five pounds. The repeated ſolicitations of Walpole, in compliance with his brother's wiſhes, had no effect, all his attempts to perſuade the King were ineffectual.

"Trevor had received from Horace Walpole a promiſe of his recommendation, and as he knew the affection of Sir Robert Walpole for his brother, and believed his influence all-powerful in the cloſet, he had conſidered his appointment to the offices of envoy and plenipotentiary, as certain as if it had paſſed the great ſeal. When, therefore, the miniſter acquainted him with the King's inflexibility, he declined accepting the grant of envoy alone, as degrading to himſelf; and declared that, on account of the ſmallneſs of his own fortune, the ſalary of five pounds a day was inſufficient to maintain an eſtabliſhment, in a ſtyle and manner conformable to his age, and conſonant to the dignity of his ſtation.

"The miniſter never felt himſelf more chagrined. He was concerned leſt his brother ſhould impute to him a lukewarmneſs in promoting his friend, and procuring a poſt which had been ſolemnly promiſed. He was apprehenſive leſt Trevor ſhould conceive his influence over the King greater than it really was, and ſhould ſuſpect him of duplicity, and he was at the ſame time convinced, that no perſon was ſo pro-

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per to be employed at the Hague. He therefore frankly repreſented his ſituation to his brother; he expreſſed his inability to prevail over the King, and intimated, that ſhould Trevor decline the appointment of envoy, the conſequence would be the increaſe of the King's diſguſt, and the nomination of another perſon, who might be both incapable of diſcharging his functions, and be diſagreeable to them. He therefore earneſtly entreated his brother to obtain the acquieſcence of his friend. His exhortation prevailed; Trevor, at the ſuggeſtion of Horace Walpole, complied, and ſucceeded him at the Hague. In the quality of envoy only."

Thus compelled to declare war againſt his own opinion, reviled by the nation, and thwarted by the King, it ſeems extraordinary that a man of Sir Robert's good ſenſe ſhould not have been forward to reſign. He might have declared that he oppoſed the war as equally unjuſt and impolitic: but that, finding both the King and the nation againſt him, he had determined to quit a ſtation which he could not preſerve with dignity. He continued, however, at the authoritive requeſt of the king, to hold his place nearly two years longer, till February 1742; continually mortified by them with whom he acted, and inſulted by thoſe who oppoſed him; till he was finally driven to a contemptible refignation.

In the concluding chapters of his work, Mr Coxe reviews the public and private character of Walpole. He clearly vindicates him from the charge of peculation, and from other calumnies ſo undeſervedly heaped on him by writers in oppoſition; and againſt which, being a patron of letters, Sir Robert was in his own time but feebly and awkwardly defended. His hoſpitality, diſintereſtedneſs, ſocial good humour, and inimitable ſarcaſm are placed in a juſt point of view: but that which peculiarly claims attention is the great principle of his public adminiſtration, his pacific ſyſtem.

This preventive ſyſtem was ſucceſſively reprobated by his adverſaries, and aſſailed with all the weapons of eloquence and wit. He was accuſed of extreme cowardice in laying down a principle ſo eſſential to a petty ſtate, but very improper for a country which had ſo great a ſway, and ought to take the lead in Europe. It was ſtigmatized as a ſervile ſubmiſſion to the influence and intereſts of France. His love of peace was characteriſed as a temporiſing ſyſtem of expedients, a dereliction of national honour, and a pacific obſtinacy. He was derided for fitting out proviſional fleets and pacific armaments, which plunged the nation into the ſame expence as an active war, while they produced nothing but Spithead exhibitions, and Hyde Park reviews.

"Allowing, however, the full effect of theſe objections, and making no abatement for the prejudices of party, and the jealouſy of political rivalſhip, few words are neceſſary to ſhew the beneficial conſequences which reſulted from the general tenor of his adminiſtration. The Proteſtant ſucceſſion was eſtabliſhed, the Jacobite faction ſuppreſſed; the government acquired energy on a conſtitutional baſis; and by the prevention of foreign war, domeſtic tranquillity was ſecured. Under the calm ſtability of ſuch a government, public credit flouriſhed, commerce encreaſed, manufactures were improved, and agriculture ameliorated."

The ſecond and third volumes, filled with letters and documents, are a large fund of intereſting materials: gratefully diſplaying to the inquiſitive eye the internal mechaniſm of the engines of government; and from which we occaſionally enrich this miſcellany.

The Life of Edmund Burke, comprehending an impartial Account of his Literary and Political Efforts, and a Sketch of the Conduct and Character of his moſt eminent Aſſociates, Coadjutors, and Opponents. By Robert Biſſet, L. L. D. *C. Cadell*, 8vo.*

FEW of the various ſtudies which occupy the attention of the public, have of late years received more conſiderable improvement than Biography. It is a ſubject of great regret, that of the many eminent characters with which Nature in former ages enriched the world, ſo very ſmall a portion ſhould have obtained that applauſe from poſterity which their virtues and their ta-

* For memoirs of Mr Burke, ſee Vol. 4. p. 613, N. B.

lents

ents entitled them to expect. Enlightened by the wiſdom of Legiſlators, and guarded by the valour of Heroes, mankind ſeem to have been content with the preſent benefit to be derived from their aſſiſtance; to have paid them but caſual and temporary deference whilſt living, and to have ſuffered them to ſink into the tomb of oblivion, without poſſeſſing a ſingle hiſtorian, capable of relating their numerous and important ſervices. "There lived (ſays Horace) many valiant heroes before Agamemnon"; but alas! unaided by the powers of the poet, they have ſunk into oblivion, unlamented and unknown.

Of the writers whoſe ſtrenuous endeavours have reſcued Biography from the miſt in which it was enveloped, Johnſon's name undoubtedly ſtands foremoſt. To him we are indebted for a body of Biography, which perhaps no age or nation can equal: independent of the lives of Addiſon, Dryden, Pope, Savage, &c. the mere incidents of which may be ſuppoſed to create great part of the pleaſure we feel in peruſing them, he has, by the magic of his ſtile, given importance to lives which in themſelves could create no intereſt whatever.

No man ever excited more obſervation while living, than the illuſtrious perſonage whoſe life is the ſubject of our preſent notice, and conſequently we may infer that public curioſity has been proportionably excited by the proſpect of peruſing his memoirs. To do proper juſtice to the life and talents of Edmund Burke, muſt require an union of rare qualifications: among theſe, accuracy and extent of information, freedom from political prejudices, conſiderable literary acquirements, and habits of cloſe inveſtigation, together with a mind feelingly alive to the impreſſions of taſte and the ſallies of wit, undoubtedly ſtand foremoſt. Nor would even theſe attainments avail, unleſs aided by a ſtile forcible enough to give weight to the dignity and importance of the ſubject, and yet ſufficiently fluent to embelliſh the lighter traits of character and temper. Every reader will enter upon the peruſal of this work with great curioſity and expectation; and it is but juſt to add, that his expectations muſt be ſanguine indeed, if they be not generally ſatisfied.

"Edmund Burke was born in the city of Dublin* January 1ſt, 1730. He derived his deſcent from a reſpectable family. His father was of the Proteſtant perſuaſion, and by profeſſion an attorney, of conſiderable ability and extenſive practice. Young Edmund received the firſt part of his claſſical education under Mr Abraham Shackleton, a quaker, who kept an academy at Ballytore, near Carlow. Mr Shackleton was a very ſkilful and ſucceſsful teacher, and at his ſchool were educated many who became conſiderable in their country.

"Under the tuition of this maſter, Burke devoted himſelf with great ardour, induſtry, and perſeverance, to his ſtudies, and laid the foundation of a claſſical erudition, which alone would have entitled ordinary men to the character of great ſcholars, but conſtituted a very ſmall portion of his multifarious knowledge. His claſſical learning was the learning of a philoſopher, not of a pedant. He conſidered the ancient languages not as arrangements of meaſures, but as keys to ancient thoughts, ſentiments, imagery, knowledge, and reaſoning.

"Johnſon obſerves, that there is not an inſtance of any man whoſe hiſtory has been minutely related, that did not in every part of his life diſcover the ſame proportion of intellectual vigour. Though perhaps this, as a general poſition, may admit of modifications, it is certain that Burke, from even boyiſh days, manifeſted a diſtinguiſhed ſuperiority over his cotemporaries. He was the pride of his maſter, who foreboded every thing great from his genius."

Our Author next ſtates the different opinions entertained of the comparative merits of Edmund Burke and his brother Richard: "Richard was lively and pungent; Edmund perſpicacious, expanſive, and energetic. Of the two, Richard would have been the better writer of Epigrams, Edmund of epic poetry."

Burke, upon leaving ſchool, was at Dublin College cotemporary with Goldſmith, who frequently aſſerted, that Burke did not render himſelf very eminent in the performance of his academical exerciſes. This his Biogra-

* His father for ſome time reſided at Limrick; from which it has been erroneouſly aſſerted that Edmund was born there.

pher admits, but juſtifies him by the example of Bacon, Milton, Dryden, and Johnſon, who all, and eſpecially Bacon, it muſt be confeſſed, did not render themſelves popular by a rigid attention to college exerciſes. Certain it is, that to a mind of great and excurſive powers, the effort of directing its attention to a dry and unintereſting ſubject muſt be intolerably repulſive.

To thoſe who are in the habit of charging Burke with political inconſiſtency, the following paſſage may be not wholly without its uſe:

"In the year 1749, Lucas, a demagogue apothecary, wrote a number of very daring papers againſt Government, and acquired as great popularity at Dublin as Mr Wilkes afterwards did in London. Burke, whoſe principal attention had been directed to more important objects than the categories of Ariſtotle, perceived the *noxious tendency of levelling doctrines*. He wrote ſeveral eſſays in the ſtile of Lucas, imitating it ſo completely as to deceive the public, purſuing Lucas's principles to conſequences obviouſly reſulting from them, and at the ſame time ſhewing their abſurdity and danger. The firſt literary effort of his mind was an *expoſure of the abſurdity of democratical innovations*. This was the Ticinus of our political Scipio."

On his arrival in the metropolis, he entered himſelf of the Temple. He applied himſelf with great aſſiduity to his ſtudies, and paſſed many of his leiſure hours in the company of Mrs Woffington. Upon this occaſion, his Biographer gravely obſerves "Whether he was ſo completey chaſte as to reſiſt the attractions of that engaging woman, I cannot affirm." We are immediately afterwards informed, that "his health was gradually impaired by his intenſe application, and an alarming illneſs enſued." To Dr Nugent he applied for medical aſſiſtance, into whoſe houſe he entered as a viſitor, and whoſe daughter he ſhortly after eſpouſed.

Whoever conſiders Edmund Burke, thus ſituated, without fortune or great connections, with a wife and increaſing family, following a profeſſion of uncertain emolument, and which it does not appear he ever greatly admired, cannot but be ſtruck with admiration at the uncommon powers of that mind which could, thus ſituated, ſupport itſelf with alacrity; which could draw upon genius for the deficiencies of fortune, and finally by its exertions arrive at the higheſt ſtation of political greatneſs.

About this period he publiſhed his "Vindication of Natural Society," which, though much read, did not greatly benefit the Author, and is indeed a production more calculated for amuſement than utility. The "Eſſay on the Sublime and Beautiful" was the next production of his pen, a work which is well characterized by his ingenious Biographer, and which ſoon cauſed him to emerge from obſcurity by introducing him to Sir Joſhua Reynolds and the many eminent men who frequented his houſe. Johnſon and Burke ſoon became intimate acquaintance. The reader will be pleaſed to be again introduced to the club in Gerrard ſtreet, Soho, and will be regaled with anecdotes partly new, and partly ſerved up before. Johnſon frequently aſſerted, that Burke did not poſſeſs wit; an aſſertion which Dr. B. labours to diſprove, but is not always lucky in the inſtances he adduces.

Edmund Burke ſoon immerged into the ocean of politics an event which on man of philoſophic views can contemplate without exclaiming, "O what a noble mind was here o'erthrown?" Had he, like his friend Johnſon, devoted his great talents to the durable ſervice of the world; had he in ſequeſtered eaſe employed the powers of his mighty mind in the elucidation of ſcience (and what branch of ſcience is there that his comprehenſive genius could not have elucidated?) the conſequences would to the world have been more beneficial beyond computation, and to himſelf independence, the firſt of earthly bleſſings, and at the ſame time freedom from thoſe violent ebullitions of paſſion, which the contentions of party drew forth.

Upon the ſubject of Burke's connection with Lord Rockingham, Dr. B. thus forcibly expreſſes himſelf: "I do not rejoice at the commencement of acquaintance with the Marquis of Rockingham. From that time he may be conſidered as a party man; Burke ought not to have ſtooped to be the object of patronage; like his friend Johnſon, he ſhould have depended entirely on his own extraordinary pow-

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ers. He would been able uniformly to act as his own genius prompted him, inſtead of employing his talents in giving currency to the doctrines of others —to have wielded his own club, inſtead of a party diſtaff. In this part of their conduct, Johnſon and Hume, the only two literary characters of the age who can be placed in the ſame rank with Burke, acted more worthily of the ſuperiority with which they were bleſſed by nature. They attached themſelves to no grandees; they did not degrade the native dignity of genius by becoming retainers to the adventitious dignity of rank. Johnſon in his garret, the abode of independence, was ſuperior to Burke in his villa, the fee of a party. The former earned his indifference by his labour, the latter received his by donative. Johnſon was independent—Burke dependent. Beſides, the very extraordinary talents of Burke did not tend to promote party objects more effectually than good abilities many degrees inferior to his, and mere knowledge of buſineſs, would have done. But had he been as ſuperior to others in party ſkill as in genius and knowledge, the fertility of his fancy, and the irritability of his temper, muſt often have prevented him from directing his ſkill ſteadily to the moſt uſeful ends. For ſo much irritability, a ſituation of contention was ill ſuited."

The political tranſactions of the country at that period are detailed minutely, and ſome may think tediouſly. Dr. B. ſeems to be attached to no party ſo ſtrongly as to exclude truth; but, with reſpect to the conteſt with America, we cannot but think his uſual candour forſakes him, in uniformly beſtowing blame not only on the Miniſter who conducted the war, but on the motives from which it originated. For our own parts, we know of no opinion that meets our ideas better than that of the celebrated Gibbon, who ſays, that he ſupported with many a ſincere vote "The Rights, though perhaps not the Intereſts of the Mother Country."

His villa at Beaconsfield ſeems to have employed much of the attention of Burke, and it cannot but be pleaſing to the contemplative mind, to obſerve the Senator fatigued with the conteſts of parliament, turn his attention to the improvement of agriculture, and the ſober pleaſures of rural retirement; like his favourite Virgil, who, even in the Court of Auguſtus, did not diſdain to deſcribe the ſpade, the rake, and the plough which lays the earth equally on both ſides. It was on a viſit at Beaconsfield, that Johnſon, ſtruck with the beauty of the place, exclaimed, in the words of the exiled Mantuan to the reſtored Virgil,

"Non equidem invideo, miror magis."

An elaborate compariſon of Cicero and Burke occupies ten pages of the Work now before us. It is evident that Dr. B. is qualified to do ample juſtice to the merits of Cicero, were they contraſted with any other character than that of his favourite Burke. Upon the preſent occaſion, we think that his partiality for the Britiſh Senator has blinded him to many of the excellencies of the Roman. The compariſon is well drawn upon the whole, but at the ſame time artfully managed, by avoiding many of the defects of Burke, and ſome of the merits of Cicero. Amidſt the variety of Burke's qualifications, he has not ſufficiently reprobated the tedious and unconnect prolixity of many of his orations; the intemperate vulgarity of his perſonality to Haſtings; his metaphors, happy perhaps in their firſt formation, but ſo wiredrawn and exhauſted, as frequently to become ludicrous and abſurd; not to mention his illuſtrations, ſometimes extracted from the loweſt and moſt repulſive objects of nature. Upon all theſe occaſions Cicero is certainly ſuperior. In our ardour for national celebrity, let us not loſe ſight of national liberality. The Roman orator rarely exhauſts himſelf and his hearers in ebullitions of rage: the Britiſh orator repeatedly. The ſtream that often burſts its banks muſt ſometimes leave its channel dry.

We regret that the limits of our Work will not allow us to be more diffuſe in following the footſteps of the Biographer through the life of this extraordinary man. The Work is embelliſhed with well written characters and anecdotes of many eminent perſonages now living; but we could wiſh to have been introduced more frequently to Burke's private character. It is from knowing his private ſentiments,

his hours of ſtudy, his favourite authors, together with a thouſand trifling occurrences rendered important by the character to which they owe birth, that we are enabled to derive the greateſt benefit from Biography. In this reſpect we think Dr. B. will be found wanting: we have too much political information, and too little private: Burke is too frequently in his court dreſs.

Were the characters themſelves inanimate or unintereſting, we ſhould find little pleaſure in the events recorded in the Apology of Cibber, the Confeſſions of Rouſſeau, the Memoirs of Gibbon, and the Anecdotes of Johnſon. The pleaſure ariſes from the eaſy familiarity with which we are introduced to their private purſuits. When Congreve was viſited by Voltaire, and informed by the Frenchman that he had quitted Paris purpoſely for the pleaſure of being introduced to him; his aſſertion, "that he wiſhed to be viſited as a mere private Gentleman," was certainly the effect of vanity; but we think the reply of Voltaire, "that as a private Gentleman he ſhould not have taken the trouble to viſit him," was equally injudicious. It is only in private intercourſe, that the mortifying ſuperiority of great men is laid aſide, and for our own parts we are never better pleaſed than with thoſe books, whoſe heroes are painted as our intimate companions, who ſhare with us the pleaſures and the pains of private life, and who, in the words of Cicero, "pernoctant nobiſcum, peregrinantur, ruſticantur."

Mr Burke's converſation and his writings were perhaps better adapted than thoſe of any man now living to make "honour linger ere it leaves the land;" to ſtem the torrent of licentiouſneſs, and to teach mankind that their rights are and ever muſt be ſubſervient to their duties. The virtuous and the wiſe are at no time ſufficiently numerous to counteract the machinations of vice and folly: at preſent any diminution of their number muſt be ſeverely felt. In his own impreſſive words, "at this exigent moment, the loſs of a finiſhed man is not eaſily ſupplied."

Fragments of Scottiſh Hiſtory. Inſcribed to the Right Hon. Henry Dundas. Edinburgh, Printed for A. Conſtable. 4to. 1l. 1. Boards.

IT is with conſiderable ſatisfaction we have to announce to our readers, the additional illuſtration, which the Volume that now lies before us, adds to the hitherto much neglected Hiſtory of Scotland.

It conſiſts of an Inſcription to the Right Hon. Henry Dundas; a Preface; an Eſſay, under the title of Deſultory Reflections on the State of Ancient Scotland; an Appendix to the Eſſay, conſiſting of fourteen different articles; an engraved fac ſimile of an ancient written deed; the Diary of Robert Birrel, burgeſs of Edinburgh, from the year 1532 to the year 1605; an Account of the Engliſh Expedition into Scotland, under the command of the Earl of Hertford, in the year 1544; Patten's Account of the Duke of Somerſet's Expedition to Scotland, in the firſt year of the reign of King Edward the Sixth. The Dedication, the Preface, and the Deſultory Reflections, are the compoſitions of the Editor. The greater part of articles in the Appendix, the Fac Simile, and the Diary of Birrel, are now, for the firſt time, publiſhed from ancient manuſcripts. The other parts of the volume are reprinted from old editions, of which the copies had become rare, and, by conſequence, enormouſly expenſive in the purchaſe. In the Diary of Birrel, we find a variety of curious and entertaining particulars of the tranſactions of the 16th century, not to be met with in the hiſtories of that period. The following ſpecimen, we doubt not, will fully juſtify the propriety of this publication.

"The 4 day of Auguſte (1565) * Matthew Earll of Lennox came to Edinburghe; alſo his ſonne Henry, quho mariet ye Queine upon ye 29 day of Julay, in the palaice of Holyroudhouſe, and wes called Henry the 2d in anno 1567.

The 9 day of March 1566, Seingeour David, ſurnamed Riſus, ane Italiane, quha wes the Queine's ſecretary, a man verey ſkilfull in muſic and poetry, wes ſlaine in her Majeſtie's preſence by the Lord Ruthuen, and uthers his com-

* Queen Mary ſends for the Earl of Lennox, 1564; Balf. An. i. 309.

complices, quha wer all banished therefor in anno 1566 *.

Upon the 19 day of Junii, at 8 houres in the morning, Prince James wes borne in the Castell of Edinburghe, and upon the 22d day of August, he was conveyed to Striveling, in anno 1566.

In the same tyme, the abbote of Kelso, named Ker, was slaine by the hand of Cesford, younger, hes awen brother, and his freindes.

The 10 day of August 1566. Henry Balcleugh at the crofs of Edinburghe, and then quartred, for being at ye slaughter of Seingeour David ye Italiane.

The 7 of October 1566. Sir Symeon Preloone of Craigmillar electen provoft of Edr.

The 8 of October 1566, the Queine went out of Edinburghe to Jedworthe, to hold ane justice aire.

James Earll of Bothwell wes deidly wounded in the hand, by Johne Elett, alias Johne of the Park, quhas head wes sent into Edinburghe thereafter †.

The 25 of October 1566, word came to the toune of Edinburghe, frome the Queine, yat her Majestie wes deidly sick, and desyrit ye bells to be rugge, and all ye peopell to resort to the kirk to pray for her, for she was so sick that none lipned her life.

Upon ye 2 day of Nouember 1566, Count de Bryan, embassador from the Frenche Kinge, came to Edinburghe, and remained till the 12 day of December, and then he departed to Striveling.

The 10 day of December 1566, the Earll of Bedford, embassador from the Queine of England, came to Edinburghe, and ther remained till the day of December; then he depairted to Striveling, very well accompanied. Both thes embassadors came to the Prince's baptizing.

The Prince wes baptizzed upon the 17 ‡ day of December 1566, in the chappell royall of Striveling, and wes named Charles James, James Charles.

The 25 of December 1566, Count de Bryan, ye French embassador, departed homeward out of Edinburghe.

In the beginning of Januarii 1567, the Earll of Mortone, the Lordis Lindesay and Ruthven, and ther complices, wer relaxit from the horn, for the slaughter of David Riffus, the Queine's secretary.

The 6 of Januarii 1567, the Earll of Bedford departed from Edinburgh homeward for England.

The 13 day of Januarii 1567, the Queine and Prince came to Edinburghe out of Striveling; at which time, K. Henry wes layand sicke in Glasgow of the small poks, bot some fayed he had gottene poysone.

The 20 day of Januarii 1567, the Queine departed out of Edinburghe to Glasgow to visitt the King.

The last of Januarii 1567, the K. and Queine came to Edinburghe out of Glasgow, the King being caried in ane chariott, and took his lodgeing in the Kirk of Feild.

This same day, the French embassador came to Edinburgh, and the Duck of Savoy's also.

One the 9 day of this moneth 1567, being Sonneday befor Fasteryng's even the K. was murthered in his lodgeing in the Kirk of Feild, about midnight or therby; the said lodgeing pertining to Sir James Balfour, Provost of ye said kirke. The hous wes raisett up from the ground vith pouder; and the King's chamberman, named John Tailzeour, wes found vith him lyand in ane zaird dead under ane tree; and the King, if he had not beine cruelly

* —— Thefe Lords entered (or as others relate the ftorie) ruffled togither (and the Kyng wt them) in to the Queene's dyning rowme at fupper tyme, thee tutting at the table wt ye Countefs of Arrye; affaulted the fellow wt there naked fwords, as he tailed meat coming frome the Queene's table at ye cup boorde (as ye fervants of ye privie chamber ufes to doe) befor hir face, being great wt chylde, trembling wt feare, and fetting a piftoll to hir breaft, to yt thee was in danger of prefent abortion; and pulling the wretch out of hir hands (who gript faft unto hir) violentlie out unto ye utter chamber, he all the tyme crying moft pitifullie to ye Queene, Juftitia, juftitia, Madame! fave ma vie, fave ma vie! and there they moft cruellie wtout pitie killed him, fhooting ye Queene in an upper parlor - - - - - *Patrick Anderfon's Hift. of Scotland, 3 vol, folio, MS. Advoc. Libr.*

† *Vid.* Robertfon, i. 323.

‡ 15th, according to others.

vyrriet,

vyrriet, after he fell out of the aire, with his awen garters, he had leived *.

The 10 day of this moneth 1567 the embaſſadors of France & Savoy came to the houſe quher the K. wes lyand, and requyred a ſight of him, bot wes refuſit therof by the ſhouldiours.

The 11 day of this mouthe 1567, the embaſſaders departed homeward from Edinburghe.

The 15 day 1567, K. Henry wes buriet verey ſecretly in the night at Holyrudehouſe †.

The 21 of this moneth 1567, a ſmall Frenche ſhipe, with ſex Scotſmen, perished at the Holy Iyland; the reſt eſchaped narrowly with their lywes.

The 19 day of this moneth 1567, the Prince was conveyed oute of Edinburghe to Striveling Caſtell, and delyvered to the Earll of Mar, Lord Erſkyne, till he came to the age of 17 zeiris.

The 21 of this moneth, the Caſtle of Edinburghe wes randred to Cockburne of Skirling, at the Queine's command. This ſame day, ther lus ane vehement tempeſt of wynde, which blew a verey grate ſhipe out of the rode of Leith, and ſickyk blew the taille from the cocke wich ſtandes one the tope of ye ſteiple away from it; ſo the old proyhefy came trew—

> Quhen Skirling fall he capitaine,
> The cocke fall want his taile.

The 25 of March 1567, ther wer ane ſolemne Pape maſs with a dergie ſonge at Edinburghe, and done in the chappell royal of Holyrouedhouſe, for the ſaid Henry Steuarte and his faule, by the papiſts, at her Majeſtie's command.

The 12 day of Apryll 1567, James Hepburne Earll of Bothuell did underlay the law for the ſlaughter of K. Henry Steuart, and ther wes one his aſſyze Lords, Lordis, and ſmall Barons or gentlemen. The Earlls wer, Errole, Cranford, Rothes, Caſſillis, and the Earll of Montrois, quho wes chancelor, quha referred all to ye Queine ‡.

At this tyme, after King Henrie's murther, ther wes daily placketts or challenges fett upon the Abby yett of Holyroudhous, and upone the croſs, tolbuith, and ports of the toun of Edinburghe, to ſight the Earll of Bothuell, yat he was the Kinges murtherer; bot no mor anſuer wes made, than the diſcharging of them by ſtrait proclamations at the Quein's command.

The 16 day of Apryll 1567, ther wes ane Parliament haldin at Edinburghe, quherin the Quein's Majeſtie, with conſent of the Eſtats, reſtored ye Erlis of Huntly & Sutherland to their former dignities, fame and revenews.

The 21 of Apryll 1567, the acts of Parliament wer proclaimed at ye croſs of Edinburgh. The firſt act wes, the Lirk ſhould hold in yat ſame eſtate it wes into quhen her Majeſtie came in Scotlande; and ane vther acte wes, that if aney man ſhould ſet aney placketts or ſclanderous lybells upone the croſſe, tolbuith, or Abbey yetts, and did not deſtroy them, ſhould ſuffer death; with ſundry uther actes. Sicklyke, upon the ſame day, James Murray and Henrey Swanton wer ſummonded to underlay the law for putting one of placketts upon the croſſe, tolbuith, or Abby yetts.

Alſo the ſame day, the Queine raid to Striveling to viſit ye Prince.

Upon the 24 of Apryll 1567, her Majeſtie, upon comeing back from Striveling to Edinburghe, at the bridge of Cramond, the Earll of Bothuell, being well accompanied, raveſhett ye Queine, and ſo took her yat ſame night to ye caſtle of Dumbar (not agoid her awen will)

The Earll of Bothuell had to his vyffe a good medeſt and vertuous woman, ſiſter to ye Earl of Huntley, yet by moyen wes devorcit from her, alledge-

* Several authors place thoſe events upon the 10th.

† Balf. An. i. 324,—*Vid.* Keith, p. 368, note.

‡ This paragraph ſeems to be ſingularly erroneous. The numbers in the text are, 5 Earls, 4 Lords, and 4 gentlemen. The aſſize conſiſted of Andrew L. of Rother, George E. of Caithneſs, Gilbert E. of Caſſillis; Lord John Hamilton, commendator of Arbroath, ſon to the Duke; James L. Roſs, Robert L. Semple, John Maxwell L. Herries, Lawrence L. Oliphant, Robert L. Boyd; John Gordon of Lochinvar, James Cockburn of Langton, John Somerville of Cambuſnethan, Mowbray of Barnbougle, and Ogilby of Boyne.

ing

ing in his lybelled fummones, yat they were fo near of kin and blood, yat it could not be a lawfull marriage *.

The 12 day of Maii 1567, James Hepburne Earll of Bothuell, by the Queen's grace, with advyfe of her counfell then prefent, wes creatt and proclaimit Marquefs of Fyfe, and Duck of Orkney.

The 15 of Maii 1567, the Queine wes maried to the Duck of Orkney, in the chappell royal of Holyrudhous, by Adam Bothuel, abbote † of Holyrudhous; and hes text wes the 2d of Geanes."

The account of the Earl of Hertford's expedition into Scotland, in the year 1544, relates, that the Engliſh fleet, after three days navigation from Tynmouth, arrived in the Frith of Forth; that, on the fourth day of May, they made a deſcent between Leith and Granton, and ſoon ſaw about five or ſix thouſand Scots, with Cardinal Beaton at their head, retire with precipitation at their approach; that the Engliſh then captured the town of Leith; refuſed to accept the keys of the city gates of Edinburgh from the the hands of its magiſtrates; quickly made themſelves maſters of that city by aſſault, but found its caſtle to be impregnable; that they, then, ſet on fire the city of Edinburgh, and the Abbey of the Haly-Rude, ſpoiled the ſurrounding country with fire and ſword, took their march, by land, for England, and in ſpite of the menaced oppoſition of the Scots, arrived at Berwick, on the eighteenth day of May, with the loſs of not more than forty perſons out of their original number; that the fleet, with thoſe who had remained on board the ſhips, likewiſe, arrived ſafe at Berwick, on the very ſame day. A liſt of the towns, villages, and dwelling-houſes of the Scots, which were, in this expedition, deſtroyed by the Engliſh, is ſubjoined: Another account of ſome ſpoiling incurſions, which were, ſoon after, made by the Engliſh borderers, into the ſouthern counties of Scotland, appears as a ſupplement to the former. Both theſe appear to have been official accounts, ſimilar to thoſe which are now publiſhed in our gazettes.

The *Narrative of W. Patten, Londoner*, fills about a third part of the volume, and is the laſt article in it. It is a journal of a well known expedition by the Duke of Somerſet, Protector of England, to compel the Scots to give their young queen, Mary, in marriage, to Edward the Sixth. This expedition took place in the year 1547. In Patten's Narrative, the whole ſeries of its events is traced from the Duke of Somerſet's arrival from London, at Newcaſtle, on the 27th day of Auguſt, to his return out of Scotland, acroſs the Tweed, on the 29th day of the ſubſequent month of September; the towns deſtroyed, the caſtles taken, the territories ſpoiled, the armies routed by the Engliſh, in the progreſs of this invaſion, are all particularly commemorated in this narrative, with an ample detail of circumſtances. The famous battle of Pinkie is the principal event of the whole expedition; and is, therefore, here related at great length, and, as it ſhould ſeem, with great fidelity: three engravings exhibit to the eye as many different poſitions of the Engliſh and the Scottiſh armies on the field of battle. The concluſion of the work ſhews, that, though the Scots were, with terrible ſlaughter, defeated in the battle of Pinkie; though a conſiderable extent of the border-diſtrict of Scotland was thus reduced under ſubjection to England, yet Somerſet's expedition had been unwiſely planned, and not prudently conducted, ſince it failed to accompliſh its primary object, the obtaining of the infant Scottiſh Queen to be the bride of young Edward. Patten appears to have been a man of learning, for he introduces into the tenor of his narrative, not a few eminent proofs of his erudition.

From the account we have juſt given of the contents of this very curious and valuable volume of Scottiſh hiſtory, it may be unneceſſary to ſay more in commendation of it. We cannot, however, conclude without obſerving, that the Editor appears to have abilities equal to the importance of the ſubject he has ſo properly choſen for illuſtration.

Z.

NEW

* *Vid.* Robertſon's Appendix, No. 31.

† Robertſon terms him Biſhop of Orkney, i. 359. He was elected Biſhop of Ookney 8th October 1562. He exchanged the biſhoprick for the abbacy of Holyroodhouſe, before 1569; Niſb. Herald. ii. 243.

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POETRY.

FOR THE SCOTS MAGAZINE.

ODE,

ON LORD NELSON'S VICTORY.

'TWAS when a Victor of Britannia's Isle
Returning from the Nile,
With flowing ſtreamers waving high in air,
And canvas ſwelling gently to the breeze;
Italia's fertile coaſts and friendly ſeas,
Had reach'd, and Fame the tidings did declare.

She with her hundred tongues had gone before,
And had from ſhore to ſhore,
His great exploits and gallant deeds proclaim'd;
How in th' Egyptian ſeas he had aſſail'd,
And o'er the plund'rers of the world prevail'd,
As Europe's ſhield ſhe had the Briton nam'd.

And that the Hero crown'd with living bay,
His flag would ſoon diſplay.
Tracing Italia's coaſts, whilſt ſtain'd and torn
The flag tri-colour'd which he had achiev'd,
Of which the vanquiſh'd foe he had bereav'd,
A trophy 'neath the Union now was born.

Sicilia's Monarch proud of ſuch a gueſt,
And that he might atteſt,
How high in eſtimation he was held,
Due honours too ſolicitous to pay,
To one that did ſuch faculties diſplay,
Forth to the bay to greet the Hero ſail'd.

Now tops and yards by Britiſh tars are mann'd,
And all expectant ſtand.
And now ſpectators crowd the yellow ſhore,
Whilſt Neptune's boiſt'rous ſons an honeſt cheer,
Th' Italian Monarch gives as he draws near,
And now the Vanguard's thunder 'gins to roar.

A ſound celeſtial next is heard to riſe,
That ſeems to reach the ſkies.
Britannia's band in bold and martial ſtrains,
Tells that her gen'rous ſons the hoary waves
Long, long ſhall rule, and never ſhall be ſlaves,
Spreading the tale o'er all the neighb'ring plains.

And now reſounds a louder peal,
By hearts of oak and hearts of ſteel,
Led on by Neptune's fav'rite Son,
The proud important day was won,
A gallant fight he did ſuſtain,
And ſhall his hearts of oak to vict'ry lead again.

Spectators in their joy now take a ſhare,
With Britiſh hearts of oak reſounds the air,
Nereids and Sirens that frequent the bay
In chorus join to celebrate the day.

The ſcepter'd monarch of the briny main,
Who jealous of his reign,
Attentive liſten'd from his oozy bower,
Conceiving ſurly Eolus from his caves,
Had raſſian ſubjects ſent to rouſe the waves,
Like ſans cullottes uſurping legal power.

The boſom of the ſea he quick unfolds,
And now the ſcene beholds.
His eyes he rolls around the glaſſy bay,
O'er which, and ſylvan groves and fertile lands,
Naples, a view ſuperbly rich, commands,
Where now the Vanguard with great Nelſon lay.

Now thro' the ſmooth and pliant ſeas he glides,
Till near the yellow ſides
Of lann'd Britannia's wooden walls he draws.
His courſers, as they cut the foaming wave,
Laſh with their tails, and ſeem their prince to brave,
As if he did not give to ocean laws.

Calm was the day and mild, ſerene the ſky,
And Phœbus ſhone refulgent from on high.
The monarch that commands the azure flood,
His left arm leaning on his trident, ſtood,
Whilſt thus the gallant Briton he addreſs'd:

"Hail! Warrior, with tranſcendant merit bleſs'd,
Hail! modeſt hero of my fav'rite iſle;
(Upon his countenance he wore a ſmile)
Go on, and ſtill the faithleſs Gauls ſubdue,
Till they to George your King for peace ſhall ſue.
With faculties enlarged, reſources great,
Britannia's ſtill a bold and riſing ſtate,
Her freeborn ſpirit, France ſhall near controul,
Her commerce ſtill ſhall flow from pole to pole,
Her navy long by vet'rans ſhall be led,
Their great achievements more and more ſhall ſpread.
Still let undaunted Tully guide the helm,
He with confuſion ſoon ſhall overwhelm
Britannia's foes, and Europe ſhall declare
She owes her ſafety to his watchful care.
But let him watch, for Catalines there are,
Whoſe boſoms pant to kindle civil war.

Their

Their impious hands in kindred blood they'd
stain
Without remorse, their purposes to gain."
He said, and in th' abyss he sunk from day,
And for his bower bent back his liquid way.

VERSES,

ADDRESSED TO A FEMALE REPUBLICAN.

THE world all equal! vain illusion!
Think, charming Julia, what confusion
Your doctrine would create;
The French might then, the day their own,
Reform our altar and our throne,
And organize the state.

To reign, by beauty's soft controul,
The Sovereign of the captive soul,
Would then be public treason;
The Queen of Love herself might dread
To lose her throne, perhaps her head,
In our new "Age of Reason."

Cease to defend so bad a cause;
Should you subvert our good old laws,
Yourself too dear would pay;
For Chaos then would cover all,
Talents and graces prostrate fall,
To "Vive l'Égalite!"

If what you say be just and real,
That all distinction is ideal,
Pray stem this mighty evil;
Destroy your own pre-eminence,
In wit, accomplishments, and sense,
And join our humble level.

Till then, I own, I hope to see
Subjects and Kings in peace agree,
To earth's remotest border;
France once more own Religion's sway,
And for the Order of the Day,
Restore the days of order.

VERSES ON HIS OWN BIRTH-DAY.

WRITTEN BY THE HON. C. J. FOX.

Addressed to a Lady.

Of years I have now half a century past,
And none of the Fifty so blest as the last.
How it happens my Troubles thus daily
should cease,
And my Happiness still with my years
should increase—
The distance of Nature's more general laws,
You alone can explain, who alone art the
cause.

THE BEGGAR GIRL.

A POOR helpless wand'rer, the wide world
before me,
When the harsh din of war forc'd a parent to roam,
With no friend, save kind Heaven, to protect and watch o'er me,
I a child of affliction was robb'd of a home;
And thus with a sigh I accosted each stranger—
"O look with compassion on poor orphan Bess!
Your mite may relieve her from each threat'ning danger,
And the soft tear of pity can soothe her distress."

To the rich, by whom virtue's too often neglected,
I tell my sad story, and crave for relief;
But wealth seldom feels for a wretch unprotected—
'Tis poverty only partakes of her grief.
Ah! little they think that the thousands they squander
On the play-things of folly and fripp'ries of dress,
Would relieve the keen wants of the wretched who wander,
While the soft tear of pity would sooth their distress!

Though bereft of each comfort, poor Bess will not languish;
Since short is life's journey, 'tis vain to lament;
And He who still marks the deep sigh of keen anguish,
Hath plac'd in her bosom the jewel content.
Then, ye wealthy to-day, think, ah! think, ere to-morrow
The frowns of misfortune upon you may press,
And turn not away from a poor orphan's sorrow,
When the soft tear of pity can sooth her distress.

THE STAGES OF LIFE.

WHEN the sun-beam of joy gilds the Morn of our days,
And the soft heart is warm'd both with hope and with praise,
New pleasures new prospects still burst on the view,
And the phantom of bliss in our walks we pursue.
What though tangled in brakes, or withheld by the thorn,
Such sorrows of youth are but pearls of the morn.
As the gems on the leaf, in the fervour of day,
The warmth of the season dissolves them away.
In the noon-tide of life, though not robb'd of their fire,
The warm wishes abate, and the spirits retire;
Thus colours less glowing give equal delight,

When

When Reaſon juſt tints them with ſhades of the night
Reflections ſlow ſhadow ſteals down the gay hill,
Though as yet you may ſhun the ſoft ſhade as you will,
And on Hope fix your eye, till her brightneſs, ſo clear,
Shall hang on its lid a dim trembling tear.
Next the ſhades of mild Evening cloſe ſilent around,
And lengthen'd Reflection muſt ſtalk o'er the ground;
Through her lanthorn of magic paſt pleaſures are ſeen,
And we then only know what our play dreams have been.
On the pleaſing illuſion we gaze while we can,
Though we often exclaim "What a bauble is man?"
In youth but a gew-gaw, in age but a toy,
The ſame empty trifle as man and as boy!

BRITISH PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Continued from Page 136.

Jan. 22. The Houſe met this day purſuant to adjournment of the 9th.

Union with Ireland.

26. *Mr Secretary Dundas* brought up a meſſage from his Majeſty, of which the following is the ſubſtance:

"GEORGE REX.

"His Majeſty is perſuaded that the unremitting induſtry with which our enemies perſevere in their avowed deſigns of effecting the ſeparation of Ireland from this kingdom, cannot fail to engage the particular attention of Parliament: and his Majeſty recommends it to this Houſe to conſider of the moſt effectual means of counteracting and finally defeating this deſign; and he truſts that a review of all the circumſtances which have recently occurred, joined to the ſentiment of mutual affection and common intereſt, will diſpoſe the Parliaments of both kingdoms to provide, in the manner which they ſhall judge moſt expedient, for ſettling ſuch a complete and final adjuſtment as may beſt tend to improve and perpetuate a connection eſſential to their common ſecurity, and to augment and conſolidate the ſtrength, power, and reſources of the Britiſh empire."

On the motion of *Mr Dundas*, "that this meſſage be taken into conſideration to-morrow,"

Mr Sheridan roſe and ſpoke nearly to the following effect:—"Sir, when his Majeſty's meſſage is taken into conſideration to-morrow, I take it for granted that the addreſs, which will then be propoſed to be voted, will contain an aſſurance that we ſhall proceed to an early conſideration of the ſubject. I therefore think it fair to give this early notice, that I view the bringing forward of this queſtion, at this time, as a meaſure replete with ſo much miſchief, that I hold it my duty to take the firſt opportunity to do every thing in my power to arreſt the further progreſs of it. I am convinced, Sir, that it is the common feeling of all perſons in this Houſe, as well of thoſe out of it, to adopt every meaſure that may tend to perpetuate and ſtrengthen the connection between the two countries; becauſe they muſt be convinced that a ſeparation would not only injure, but would be fatal to the intereſts and the exiſtence of both. What I point at in particular is, the time of bringing forward this queſtion. Sir, I ſhall certainly join in returning his Majeſty our thanks for his communication; but inſtead of engaging to proceed to an early conſideration of the ſubject, I ſhall feel it to be my duty to endeavour to perſuade the Houſe not to proceed to ſuch a conſideration."

After a few words from Mr Pitt and Mr Sheridan the motion for taking his Majeſty's meſſage into conſideration to-morrow, was agreed to.

27. The order of the day being read for taking into further conſideration his Majeſty's meſſage of yeſterday,

Mr Secretary Dundas, being unable to anticipate any grounds of oppoſition, contented himſelf with ſimply moving an addreſs to his Majeſty, thanking him for his gracious communication, with an aſſurance that the Houſe would take the ſubject into its ſerious conſideration.

Mr Pitt ſeconded the motion.

Mr

Mr Sheridan thought it incumbent on the Miniſters, before they moved this addreſs, to have ſhewn that the ſolemn and final arrangement concluded between Great Britain and Ireland in the year 1782 had failed in its object. It was evident that the arrangement now propoſed was a legiſlative union, though the latter word was never mentioned in the meſſage. He maintained, that, ſuppoſing the plan to be eligible, this was not a period to propoſe it, when Ireland, covered with 40,000 Britiſh troops, could not be ſaid to be a free agent.

Would not gentlemen be ready to reprobate France, if, with 40,000 troops in that country, they compelled the aſſiſtance of the inhabitants? and if, by a decree of the Directory, perſons in truſt were diſmiſſed becauſe they doubted the propriety of the meaſures that were puſhed forward? Would not Gentlemen treat with ſcorn ſuch conduct in France, and ridicule the idea of ſuch incorporation being with the free will of that country? Would any man ſay, that it was with the free will of the King of Sardinia that the compact was made between him and the French? And could there be ſaid to be any free will in the people or parliament of Ireland, when recourſe was had to ſuch meaſures of intimidation and corruption, in order to forward the preſent meaſures? We hear much againſt French principles, and would to God we abſtained from French practices!—"Let us," ſaid Mr Sheridan, "hold up the example of France to deteſtation, by abſtaining from French maxims; and let us guard againſt the modes of French incorporation. Let our Union be that of affection; an union of mind and ſpirit, as well as of intereſt and power. Let not our conduct reſemble that ſort of marriage which ſometimes takes place in the diſtreſs country by the fraud of the ſuitor, and which is conſummated by power. Do not let us commit a rape upon the independence of Ireland, nor publiſh her bands by ſounding the trumpets of 40,000 troops ſent over to her relief. My advice is, to wait, and by no means to force this meaſure at a moment when you cannot obtain the good will of the people of Ireland, but muſt ſow the ſeeds of future inſurrections, to ſpring up more formidable than any preſent ones, becauſe the ground is changed. Great will be the danger if the meaſure is carried, but what can be the danger of delay, or how can it be proved this is the proper period for the attempt?" He muſt further demur as to the right of the Parliament of Ireland to do ſuch an act: for, if they were choſen an Independent Parliament, what right, he would aſk, have they to ſurrender the power which had been delegated to them? Upon the ſame ground, might not the Britiſh Parliament give up the whole power over the purſe of the nation to the King, and vote themſelves perpetual? So it became a matter of ſerious enquiry, how far the Iriſh members could become a party to ſuch a ſurrender of the rights of the Iriſh Parliament. It would be a bad precedent, ſtriking at the root of the Conſtitution. In his opinion, this propoſed Union did not ſtrike at the root of the exiſting evil. The Britiſh Government had two enemies in Ireland, and theſe were poverty and ignorance; and the projected Union, he contended, would not remove either of them. He himſelf was an Iriſhman, nor could he bear to have it imputed to the Iriſh as crimes, that they were poor or ſavage; the fault lay with their Government, not with them. It was ſeen that Iriſhmen in other countries advanced in knowledge and circumſtances equal with any other people; the fault therefore lay in the Government of England, and becauſe men of opulent fortunes there did not practiſe the duties incumbent on thoſe of great property. He continued to oppoſe the motion in a long and eloquent ſpeech, and concluded by moving an amendment, the effect of which was, that the Houſe expreſſed its ſurpriſe and deep regret that the final adjuſtment which took place of the matters in diſcuſſion between Great Britain and Ireland in 1782, and which the Parliament of the two countries thought would have produced the moſt ſalutary effects and means of permanent happineſs, had failed in its object; and further, to obſerve, that ſince the Houſe apprehends, that from the terms of his Majeſty's Meſſage, that it is in the contemplation of his Majeſty's Miniſters to propoſe an union with Ireland, to deprecate ſuch a meaſure at this moment,

and

and to requeſt that his Majeſty will be pleaſed not to ſeek the counſels of thoſe men who had cauſed ſuch diſtruſt and diſappointment both to this country and Ireland.

Mr Canning ſupported the original motion in a ſpeech of ſome length. With reſpect to the compariſons made between this meaſure and the forced incorporation of France, he would deſire Gentlemen to conſider a moment what was the ſituation of the countries when ſhe had pretended to unite with Batavia. Was there any ſimilarity between them and her, in point of manners, language, or political opinion? Was there any analogy between ſuch diſcordant connexions, and one between two countries that were united, already united by the cloſeſt ties of friendſhip, by blood, by the ſame ſpecies of government, both obeying the ſame Sovereign, and ſpeaking the ſame language? But was it on terms of promoting the common good of each nation, that France deſired to incorporate other countries with her? Was it for the purpoſe of bettering the condition of her new Members, and giving them commercial advantages, that ſhe formed theſe connections? No: it was for the purpoſe of confiſcation and plunder. The moſt ſtrenuous friends of reform in Ireland have frequently ſaid that they wanted only to be brought to a ſituation nearer to that of England: in ſhort they wiſhed for a Britiſh Conſtitution in all its parts. But among all thoſe people whom the French had ſucked into the vortex of her deſpotiſm, there was not one who wiſhed for the conſtitution offered to them. The conduct of France in regard to Piedmont was marked by every ſpecies of perfidy, injuſtice, and rapacity. Their barbarous cruelty was diſplayed in an uncommon degree, in the laſt act of that melancholy tragedy, when a beloved and valued monarch was driven from his throne and the place of his reſidence, without even the ſlighteſt cauſe; for no act of his towards France, nor (to uſe the language of that country) for any crime againſt his people; in ſhort, for no other pretence but that France wanted his country.

Mr Jones ſaw no neceſſity for bringing forward the meaſure, and thought that inſtead of crulhing rebellion, it would have the very oppoſite tendency.

Mr Pitt ſaid, the Honourable Gentleman, in bringing forward his amendment, has appeared to furniſh but one argument in ſupport of the concluſion which he labours to eſtabliſh, namely, that there is no power which can make the reſult of the deliberation, for adjuſting the reciprocal intereſts of both countries, effectual. He has taken upon himſelf the taſk of denying to the Parliament of either country the right of incorporating one country with another. If the Parliament of Ireland has no right to incorporate itſelf with the Legiſlature of this Country, without the ſenſe of the people of Ireland; as little has the Parliament of Great Britain a right to follow the ſame meaſure with that of Ireland; as little had the Parliament of Scotland a right to agree to the terms of the Union which had been effected; as little had the parliament of England a right to ratify that Union, under which England had ſo eminently flouriſhed, under which our laws and liberties have proſpered, have been extended and confirmed, in defiance of every check and obſtacle; under which Great Britain has increaſed in opulence, in power, in glory, and has become at once the admiration and envy of the world. Does Ireland ſtand in need of a remedy? I have heard nothing but complaints of the miſerable and diſtreſſed ſituation of Ireland from the Hon. Gentleman and his party for a long time paſt. They have anxiouſly ſtarted difficulties and raiſed objections againſt every word that went to extenuate the painful circumſtances which they related. What has the hon. gentleman now ſeen in the condition of Ireland to cauſe ſo material an alteration in his opinion? The evils and calamities with which Ireland is afflicted lie deep in the ſituation of the country. They are to be attributed to the manners of its inhabitants, to the ſtate of the ſociety, to the habits of the people at large, to the unequal diſtribution of property, to the want of civilized intercourſe, to the jarring diſcord of party, and above all, to the prejudices of religious ſects. The hon. gentleman ſays, we cannot cure them all in a day. If they could be cured ſo, they might be cured by the Parliament of Ireland, by Parliamentary Reform, or Catholic emancipation. But if the deplorable ſituation

tion of the country can only be cured by gradual, ſober, and diſpaſſionate improvement and civilization; if much of what is juſtly complained of can only be remedied by the circulation of capital, by the ſocial intercourſe naturally flowing from improved trade and commerce, by the diffuſion of ſocial habits, by the diſcrimination of liberal ſentiment, by removing party diſtractions, by ſuppreſſing factious aſſociations, by allaying hereditary feuds ſubſiſting between two nations living in the ſame iſland, and by the extinction of religious prejudices, we muſt look to it in the proviſions of an independent Legiſlature removed from the immediate ſeat of theſe evils, which ſhall not be partial to either party, but the fair arbiter and kind parent of both; which ſhall not be liable to local influence, nor be ſubject to popular incitement, and which ſhall be fully competent to make head againſt the lawleſs hoards of deſtructive innovation and anarchy. But where can this gradual and effectual remedy be found, while the Legiſlature remains in that country, and muſt, from the parts which compoſe it, partake of the ſpirit of either party? When the connection with Ireland was ſomething more than a name, when that connection was aſcertained, and the Imperial Parliament of this country exerciſed a ſupremacy over Ireland, it did happen that during the narrow policy of Great Britain, influenced by views of trade and commercial advantages, tainted and perverted with ſelfiſh motives, treated Ireland with partiality and neglect, and never looked upon her growth and proſperity as the growth and proſperity of the empire at large.—I reprobated that narrow-minded policy, as miſchievous and pregnant with the moſt fatal conſequences to both kingdoms. When the act was paſſed which gave independence to Ireland, it was accompanied by a reſolution which contained a ſalutary proviſion. The reſolution ſtated, that it was the opinion of the Houſe, that the connection between both kingdoms ſhould be conſolidated by future meaſures or regulations founded upon the baſis of mutual conſent. That reſolution was alſo carried in an addreſs to the throne; and proves that no final adjuſtment was then made, and nothing has been ſince attempted to provide for that defective ſettlement but the partial and inadequate meaſure of the Iriſh propoſitions, which were defeated by the perſons who framed the reſolution, and who found no ſubſtitute in their room.—Mr Pitt then alluded to the poſſibility of the two legiſlatures differing in opinion, and inſtanced the Regency. The difference of principle was evident, for the Iriſh Parliament decided upon one principle, and the Britiſh Parliament upon another. If, in the preſent conteſt, the Oppoſition were to have as much influence in Ireland as they formerly poſſeſſed, a vote for peace might be paſſed, and the efforts of Great Britain paralized. Might not the Parliament of Ireland in ſuch a caſe neutralize its ports; prevent the raiſing recruits for the army or navy, and ſtrike a fatal blow at the power, and endanger the exiſtence of the empire? If any inſtitution be inadequate to provide an effectual remedy for theſe evils, it is, Sir, I do not heſitate to ſay, the Iriſh Legiſlature; not from any defect of intention, not from any want of talent, but from its own nature; and it is and muſt be incapable of reſtoring the internal happineſs of the country. I have ſpoken an honeſt and a fair opinion. I have not been deterred from it by any apprehenſion that it may not prove acceptable to any ſet of men; but there is no circumſtance of probable difficulty, no idea of the loſs of popularity, no perſonal conſideration, however weighty, can prevent me from uſing every exertion and every effort in my power to accompliſh a meaſure, which, in my firm conviction, directly tends to promote the happineſs of the people of Ireland, to eſtabliſh the mutual relations of both countries on the moſt ſolid and advantageous baſis, and to conſolidate in the moſt permanent manner the genuine intereſts of the Britiſh Empire.

After a few words in explanation by *Mr Sheridan* and *Mr Pitt*, ſtrangers were ordered to withdraw, but the Houſe did not divide. *Mr Sheridan* having withdrawn his amendment, the original motion was put and carried; and the Addreſs ordered to be preſented to his Majeſty to-morrow, to which day the Houſe adjourned.

Jan. 31. *Mr Pitt* moved the order of the day, for the Houſe to take into conſideration his Majeſty's meſſage, which

which being read, (ſee p. 192.) he obſerved, that when he had fixed this day for the conſideration of the meſſage, he had indulged the hope that a ſimilar meaſure would not have been treated in the manner which it had been in the parliament of Ireland. He was convinced, from reflecting on the meaſure ſince he firſt mentioned it, that it would be for the advantage of Ireland to be legiſlatively conſolidated with this kingdom, and that it would add to the happineſs and ſtability of the Britiſh empire. In diſcuſſing this buſineſs, he ſaid, there was one point indiſputable, that the parliament was fully competent to reject any propoſition from this country to unite the parliaments, nor could it be done without the acquieſcence of the Irish Houſe of Commons.

In debating his Majeſty's ſpeech in the laſt country, there was a large majority, he ſaid, in the Houſe of Lords; but in the Commons there was a ſtrong repugnance manifeſted to the meaſure. But feeling as he did, that a legiſlative union was for the general good of the empire, and perſuaded that it would be extremely beneficial to Ireland in every point of view, he roſe now for the purpoſe of laying before the Houſe certain propoſitions on the ſubject, that may be recorded on the journals, and that Ireland may hereafter ſee on what terms the Britiſh legiſlature was willing to conſolidate the intereſts of the two kingdoms.

He ſaw, he ſaid, with regret, in the firſt moment of diſcuſſing the ſubject in Ireland, that the feelings of gentlemen were ſo agitated, that it was not difficult with that temperance and cool judgment which a propoſition of ſuch moment required. It was not his intention, this night, to move any thing hoſtile to the feelings of the Irish parliament, but he alſo felt, as a member of the Britiſh Houſe of Commons, a right to exerciſe his duty, and offer any propoſition that he conceived calculated to add to the ſtrength, the ſtability, and the reſources of the Britiſh empire. For theſe reaſons he would endeavour to explain the plan which he thought the moſt conducive to the welfare, the happineſs, and the ſafety of both countries, as well as to the empire at large.

In having the plan recorded on the journals, he ſaid, that it might appear free from miſrepreſentation. After the plan was recorded, he would then move, that an humble addreſs be preſented to the King, informing his Majeſty that the Houſe had come to ſuch reſolutions which they laid at the foot of the throne, to ſhow the Commons of Ireland the terms on which the Britiſh parliament propoſed to conſolidate the intereſts of both kingdoms.

There was one opinion on which he remarked that there was no difference, and that was, that the perpetual connection of Great Britain and Ireland was neceſſary to the general intereſts of the empire, and abſolutely neceſſary to the exiſtence of each other. He next adverted to the conduct of the enemy, who, feeling the neceſſity of that connection, had by every artifice in their power (and all muſt allow that they were fertile in their imagination) inceſſantly endeavoured to deſtroy that connection: in which they were aided by domeſtic treaſon, and the abettors of anarchy and rapine. He then would aſk the Houſe, if it was not the duty of the friends of both countries to try and cement that connection, and prevent it from being deſtroyed by the machinations of the common enemy, who found Ireland, in its preſent ſituation, the moſt vulnerable to its repeated attacks. And what, he aſked, prevented the deſigns of the enemy, but the intervention of Providence? for France was incouraged to invaſion by domeſtic traitors, holding a direct and acknowledged communication with the enemy, in contempt of every thing human and divine.

Now, he obſerved, as Ireland was the moſt aſſailable point of the Britiſh empire, ought not parliament to profit by the deſigns of the enemy, and by conſolidating the two countries, render it ſecure againſt future attacks. This, he ſaid, was a ſelf-evident propoſition, which would, he hoped, make due impreſſion on the Houſe. He next adverted to the adjuſtment of 1782, which, he inſiſted, ſo far from being a final ſettlement, left the kingdom expoſed to conſiderable peril; and he quoted the words of Mr Foſter, the ſpeaker of the Irish Houſe of Commons, to prove that ſuch was his opinion. It was not only his ſentiments he

he ſaid, but was the ſentiments of thoſe very miniſters who propoſed and carried that adjuſtment, and who boaſted that they had accomplished every thing, when in fact they had done nothing.

During the diſcuſſion on the commercial propoſitions of 1785, he inſiſted that ſuch was the opinion of Mr Foſter, who now objects to the conſolidation of the two countries, a meaſure which was calculated to prevent the claſhing of two independent parliaments, which was an inconvenience of the greateſt magnitude. On this ſtatement he apprehended that no man would hazard a contradiction.

The people of Ireland, he obſerved, felt a pride of being aſſociated with Great Britain in a conteſt that raiſed her ſo high in the opinion of Europe; and as they muſt conſequently feel an intereſt in defending the favourite hopes of France, ſo ought they to feel happy in adopting the meaſure propoſed. He then adverted to the jarring intereſts of the various religious ſects in Ireland. He obſerved as to the antipathy between the original natives of that kingdom and the Britiſh ſettlers. He touched on the diſparity of numbers between the catholics and proteſtants, and ſaid that it was the only kingdom where the majority were not entitled to the ſame privileges as the minority. He did not pledge himſelf to any regulations reſpecting particulars, but he thought that notwithſtanding the apprehenſion and indignation entertained by the proteſtants with reſpect to the catholics would be obviated by a legiſlative union.

He next calculated the advantages which would ariſe in a commercial point of view, and again quoted the language of Mr Foſter on the Iriſh propoſitions to prove it. An hon. gentleman (Mr Sheridan) on a former night, ſaid, that it was doubted whether the Iriſh parliament could ſurrender its independence; but declined giving it as his own opinion that it could not. If any man was of that opinion, he would be ready on all occaſions to come out and be infallible, that if parliament had no ſuch right, that it had no power to legiſlate for thoſe who entruſted them with the powers of legiſlating. He next adverted to the apprehenſions entertained that the country would be depopulated, and the capital ruined by ſuch a meaſure. This he denied; ſome of the members who now live in the metropolis of Ireland would conſequently reſide in this country, but Dublin would ſtill retain its courts of law, with which it was not intended to meddle, and the ſeat of learning. That city would, beſide, be benefited in trade, which would more than compenſate for the loſs to which he alluded; and as there would be a greater increaſe of commerce, conſequently the people of the bar would not be ſufferers, but, on the contrary, conſiderable gainers by the regulation. He next called the recollection of the Houſe to the union with Scotland—the ſame clamour prevailed in Edinburgh that did in Dublin; but the population of the Scotch capital was trebled ſince the union took place, and that of Glaſgow was much greater. He concluded by reading his propoſitions, of which the following is an outline:

I. That in order to promote and ſecure the eſſential intereſt between Great Britain and Ireland, and to conſolidate the ſtrength, power, and reſources of the Britiſh empire, it would be adviſeable to concur in ſuch meaſures as may be calculated to unite the two kingdoms of Great Britain and Ireland into one kingdom, in ſuch manner, and on ſuch terms and conditions, as may be eſtabliſhed by acts of the reſpective parliaments of his Majeſty's ſaid kingdoms.

II. That it appears to this committee that it would be fit to propoſe, as the firſt article to ſerve as a baſis of the ſaid union, that the ſaid kingdoms of Great Britain and Ireland ſhall, upon a day to be agreed upon, be united into one kingdom, by the name of the united kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.

III. That for the ſame purpoſe it appears alſo to this committee that it would be fit to propoſe, that the ſucceſſion to the monarchy and the imperial crown of the ſaid united kingdoms of Great Britain and Ireland now ſtand limited and ſettled according to the exiſting laws, and to the terms of the union between England and Scotland.

IV. That for the ſame purpoſe it appears alſo to this committee that it would be fit to propoſe, that the ſaid united kingdom be repreſented in one

and the ſame parliament, to be ſtyled the parliament of the united kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland; and that ſuch a number of Lords ſpiritual and temporal, and ſuch a number of members in the Houſe of Commons, as ſhall be hereafter agreed upon by acts of the reſpective parliaments as aforeſaid, ſhall ſit and vote in the ſaid parliament on the part of Ireland, and ſhall be ſummoned, choſen, and returned in ſuch manner as ſhall be ſaid by an act of the parliament of Ireland previous to the ſaid union: and that every member hereafter to ſit and vote in the ſaid parliament of the united kingdom ſhall, until the ſaid parliament ſhall otherwiſe provide, take and ſubſcribe the ſame oath, and make the ſame declarations as are by law required to be taken, ſubſcribed, and made by the members of the parliaments of Great Britain and Ireland.

V. That for the ſame purpoſe it appears alſo to this committee that it would be fit to propoſe, that the churches of England and Ireland, and the doctrine, worſhip, diſcipline, and government thereof, ſhall be preſerved as now by law eſtabliſhed.

VI. That for the ſame purpoſe, it appears alſo to this committee, that it would be fit to propoſe, that his Majeſty's ſubjects in Ireland, ſhall at all times hereafter be entitled to the ſame privileges, and be on the ſame footing, in reſpect of trade and navigation in all ports and places belonging to Great Britain, and in all caſes with reſpect to which treaties ſhall be made by his Majeſty, his heirs or ſucceſſors, with any foreign power, as his Majeſty's ſubjects in Great Britain. That no duty ſhall be impoſed on the import or export between Great Britain and Ireland of any articles now duty free, and that on other articles there ſhall be eſtabliſhed, for a time to be limited, ſuch a moderate rate of equal duties, as ſhall previous to the union be agreed upon and approved by the reſpective parliaments impoſed, after the expiration of the time limited, to be different with reſpect to both kingdoms, but not to be increaſed [illegible] that all goods which may at any time be exported into [illegible] from either part, ſhall be entitled [illegible] kingdom into the other ſubject to the like duties and regulations as if the ſame were imported directly from foreign parts. That where any articles, the growth, produce or manufacture of either kingdom, ſuch countervailing duties, (over and above any duties on import to be fixed as aforeſaid) ſhall be impoſed as ſhall be neceſſary to prevent any inequality in that reſpect. And that all other matters of trade and commerce other than the foregoing, and that ſuch others as may before the union be ſpecially agreed upon for the due encouragement of the agriculture and manufactures of the reſpective kingdoms, ſhall remain to be regulated from time to time by the united parliaments.

VII. That for the like purpoſe it would be fit to propoſe, that the charge ariſing from the payment of the intereſt, or ſinking fund, for the reduction of the pricipal of the debt incurred in either kingdom before the union, ſhall continue to be ſeparately defrayed by Great Britain and Ireland reſpectively; that for a number of years to be limited, the future ordinary expences of the united kingdom in peace or war, ſhall be defrayed by Great Britain and Ireland, jointly, according to ſuch proportions as ſhall be eſtabliſhed by the reſpective parliaments previous to the union; and that after the expiration of the time to be ſo limited, the proportion ſhall not be liable to be varied, except according to ſuch rules and principles as ſhall be in like manner agreed upon previous to the union.

VIII. That for the like purpoſe, it would be fit to propoſe, that all laws in force, at the time of the union, and all the courts of civil or eccleſiaſtical juriſdiction within the reſpective kingdoms, ſhall remain, as now by law eſtabliſhed within the ſame, ſubject only to ſuch alterations or regulations from time to time as circumſtances may appear to the parliament of the united kingdom to require.

That the foregoing reſolutions be laid before his Majeſty with an humble addreſs, aſſuring his Majeſty that we have proceeded with the utmoſt attention to the conſideration of the important objects recommended to us in his Majeſty's gracious meſſage.

That we entertain a firm perſuaſion that a complete and entire union between Great Britain and Ireland, founded on equal and liberal principles—on the

the similarity of laws, conſtitution and government, and on a ſenſe of mutual intereſts and affections, by promoting the ſecurity, wealth, and commerce of the reſpective kingdoms, and by allaying the diſtinctions which have unhappily prevailed in Ireland, muſt afford freſh means of oppoſing, at all times, an effectual reſiſtance to the deſtructive projects of our foreign and domeſtic enemies, and muſt tend to confirm and augment the ſtability, power, and reſources of the empire.

Impreſſed with theſe conſiderations, we feel it our duty to lay before his Majeſty ſuch propoſitions as appear to us beſt calculated to form the baſis of ſuch a ſettlement, leaving it to his Majeſty's wiſdom, at ſuch time and in ſuch manner as his Majeſty, in his parental ſolicitude for the happineſs of his people ſhall judge fit, to communicate theſe propoſitions to his Parliament of Ireland, with whom we ſhall be at all times ready to concur in all ſuch meaſures as may be found moſt conducive to the accompliſhment of this great and ſalutary work. And we truſt that, after a full and mature conſideration, ſuch a ſettlement may be framed and eſtabliſhed by the deliberative conſent of the Parliaments of both kingdoms, as may be conformable to the ſentiments, wiſhes, and real intereſts of his Majeſty's faithful ſubjects, in Great Britain and Ireland, and may unite them inſeparably in the full enjoyment of the bleſſings of our free and invaluable conſtitution, in ſupport of the honour and dignity of his Majeſty's crowns, and in the preſervation and advancement of the welfare and proſperity of the whole Britiſh Empire.

This is the ſubſtance of the addreſs I ſhould propoſe to accompany the meaſure, a meaſure which I think will conduce to the welfare of the Britiſh empire at large. With a view of diſcuſſing the ſubject regularly, I ſhall now move, "That his Majeſty's gracious meſſage be referred to the conſideration of a committee of the whole Houſe."

Mr Sheridan roſe, and in a very animated ſpeech combated the arguments of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. He dwelt particularly on the unfavourable reception which the meaſure met with in the Iriſh Parliament, and cautioned the Right Hon. Gentleman to beware how he preſſed his plan againſt the ſenſe of the nation. He concluded by ſaying, that no meaſures can have a tendency to improve and perpetuate the ties of amity and connexion now exiſting between Great Britain and Ireland which have not for their baſis the moſt full, fair, and free conſent and approbation of the parliaments of the two countries. That whatever ſhall endeavour to obtain the appearance of ſuch conſent and approbation in either country, by employing the influence of government for the purpoſes of corruption or intimidation, is an enemy to his Majeſty and to the Conſtitution.

Lord Castlereagh and *Dr Laurence* ſpoke in reply; after which the Houſe divided, ayes 140; noes 15; majority 125.

The Houſe then reſolved itſelf into a Committee, and reported progreſs, praying leave to ſit again; when they adjourned to Thurſday next.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Jan. 22. *Lord Grenville* brought up a meſſage from his Majeſty; for which ſee p. 192.

The meſſage being read, his Lordſhip moved, that the Houſe be ſummoned for to-morrow, to conſider of an addreſs of thanks to his Majeſty, for his moſt gracious meſſage.—Adjourned.

23. *Lord Grenville* moved, that the order of the day for taking his Majeſty's moſt gracious meſſage into conſideration be read.

His Lordſhip then moved a ſhort addreſs to his Majeſty upon the occaſion, which being read from the woolſack, appeared to run to the following effect: The Houſe returned their thanks to his Majeſty for his moſt gracious communication, and expreſſed their conviction of his Majeſty's paternal regard for, and attention to, the welfare of his Iriſh ſubjects; and alſo expreſſed their readineſs to concur in any meaſures which, on due examination, might be found neceſſary or expedient towards the conſolidation of the general intereſts of the Britiſh empire.

The queſtion being put, the addreſs was voted *nem. diſ.*

31. Some private buſineſs and matters of courſe occupied their Lordſhips.

Feb. 5. *The Lord Chancellor* preſented

feveral papers relative to the affairs of Ireland for the perufal of their Lordfhips. They conflfted of divers communications from the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland to his Grace the Duke of Portland.

After the titles were read, his Lordfhip moved that they do lie upon the table, which was ordered.

8. The bills on the table were read in their feveral ftages.

12. The feveral bills before the Houfe were forwarded in their refpective ftages.

18. *Lord Temple* appeared at the bar with a meffage from the Commons, defiring a conference with their Lordfhips on the fubject of the refolutions which paffed in the Commons relative to a legiflative union with Ireland, when a deputation was appointed accordingly, to meet a committee from the Houfe of Commons in the painted chamber on the fubject.—The conference having been held, the fame was announced by Lord Chatham, and the refolutions being prefented by his Lordfhip, and read by the clerk,

Lord Grenville moved that they be printed, which was agreed to.

Lord Auckland highly approved of the meafure, which he conflidered not only as the beft calculated to promote the real intereft of all claffes in Ireland, particularly the lower claffes of the people, but alfo as it was the laft refource left to preferve it from the fangs of France. Thefe obfervations his Lordfhip concluded with moving, that there be laid before the Houfe certain commercial and other documents relative to the imports and exports of Ireland for the laft twenty years, diftinguifhing each year. The purport of which was to convince the world of the continual facrifices this country has uniformly made to aggrandize Ireland in her trade and capital.

The queftion was then put on Lord Auckland's motion, which was carried *nem. con.*

20. The bills on the table paffed through their refpective ftages.

22. Some private butinefs was tranfacted, and public bills accelerated in their refpective ftages.—Adjourned.

MONTHLY REGISTER.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

EAST INDIES.

It appears by intelligence from the Eaft, that the Vakeels of Tippoo Sultan, had for three months paft, been exceedingly bufied in deputations to his highnefs the Nawaab Affoph Jah. Independent of this, they had endeavoured to eftablifh a communication with the Nabob and the Mahrattas, and open an intercourfe by no means with a good view. It was generally believed in India, that Tippoo's intention was to make fome fudden and hoftile movements as foon as events afforded him a favourable opportunity. But at the fame time, no fears were apprehended by the Englifh, on account of a firm perfuafion that not one of the Indian powers would be found inclined to make an alliance with him. An expedition generally fuppofed to be againft Japara, which is fituated two hundred and fifty-three miles eaft of Batavia, was much the converfation at Madras, as well as againft Java, which lies on the fouth of Sumatra, being only feparated by the ftraits of Sunda, under the direction of the Batavian government. Thefe iflands were reported to have harboured all illicit traders, and to have warehoufed a great part of the produce of Europe, which is faid to be carried out in fictitious bottoms.

AMERICA.

The loan of five millions of dollars, lately opened by the American government, was filled in the courfe of a few days. The whole expence of the government of the United States, including the contingent expences of the feveral departments and offices amounts to no more than 504,206 dollars. The expence of the army is 4,302,005 dollars; the expence of fhips ordered to be built by Congrefs 671,104; arms and military ftores 233,000: maintaining the prefent naval eftablifhment for an entire year 2,420,180; for eight revenue cutters during the year 1799. 117,501 dollars. The whole fum required for the fervice of the year is about 6,524,617 dollars.

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The Congrefs are about to paſs a law to prevent the interference of private individuals in caſes relating to the contefts of the United States with foreign countries.

TURKEY.

It appears by intelligence from Conſtantinople dated the 25th of January, that a defenſive treaty was concluded on the 23d of December 1798, between Ruſſia and the Porte. By this treaty both parties guarantee the empire of each other and the poſſeſſions thereunto belonging. In caſe of hoſtilities by ſea or land againſt either of the contracting parties, they are to fly to the aid of the party attacked with men, arms, or money. The aſſiſtance in men to be within [illegible] months after the requiſition.—The contracting powers are to have in future the ſame friends and the ſame enemies, and both parties have agreed to invite the Kings of England, Pruſſia, and other powers, to accede to this treaty. Sir Sydney Smith arrived at Conſtantinople in the Tyger, towards the latter end of December laſt, and by order of the Porte, took poſſeſſion of the magnificent palace of Boglos, with the French emigrants, and a guard of marines. He was ſoon after complimented with a Turkiſh title of honour, and aſſumed the character of accredited ambaſſador of Britain. It was ſuppoſed he would direct the operation of the Turkiſh navy.

HOLLAND.

A breach has now been publickly announced between this country, and the ſublime Porte, (ſee State Papers for 1795).—The breaking of the ice has done great damage to the canals in many places. Gueiderland is reported to be in a critical ſituation. At Nimeguen the whole town has been overflowed for two or three days. During the time of the inundation, Government neglected no means poſſible for giving relief to the unfortunate inhabitant. Small boats were employed to convey proviſions to the different villages, and to receive ſuch families, as by the ſudden increaſe of the waters, were obliged to fly to the eminences in order to ſave their lives. Theſe boats, however, were ſoon rendered uſeleſs, as the exceſſive cold covered the waters again with ice. Boats were then put upon ſledges, but the proviſions with which they were laden were almoſt entirely frozen. Fields of ice arrive, covered with men and cattle.

FRANCE.

The Executive Directory has addreſſed a long Proclamation to the people of France on the ſubject of the approaching elections, which ſhows their anxiety to have only their own creatures returned. It abounds in invectives againſt tyranny and Jacobinical conſpiracies, and invites the electors to be equally on their guard againſt Royaliſts and Jacobins. It concludes with the following paſſage:—"You behold your foreign enemies diſarmed by your wiſdom, and vanquiſhed by your valour. The beſt way of compelling them to make peace is to chooſe proper Repreſentatives. Be mindful of the voice of poſterity, which will ſay in bleſſing your memory—For nine years replete with thorny events and revolutions, the French have diſplayed to Europe the example of courage and heroiſm. It only remained for them to furniſh a pattern of the civic virtues, and that was given by the elections of the 7th year of the republic. The people had already confirmed their glory; by them they ſecured their happineſs."

On the 16th February, the following meſſage was ſent by the Directory to the two councils. "The Ottoman Porte, informed that the expedition to Egypt was only directed againſt its real enemies, had begun to look upon it with a favourable eye, but it was ſoon led aſtray by the perfidious inſinuations of England and the coalefced Powers. The war, which it has declared againſt its ancient and faithful allies, has been the fruit of this error, and will lead to its total ruin. It has drawn the Barbary powers into a war with France. The French Government has adopted meaſures of reprifal, and it gives you notice of having done ſo."

March 13. The Directory declared that France was at war with the Emperor, King of Hungary and Bohemia, and with the Grand Duke of Tuſcany.

The Directory has explained at length, in its meſſage, the complaints of the Republic againſt thoſe two powers. It declares, with reſpect to the Emperor, that the treaty of Campo Formio was miſunderſtood in its principle, and not carried into effect in one of its princi-

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pal articles; and that the conduct of the Auſtrian Cabinet has always been in oppoſition to Peace. It adverts to the cold reception of our Ambaſſador Bernadotte, at Vienna; to the affront offered to him there; to the hypocriſy of that Court in the negociations of Selz, which was the more evident, becauſe Baron de Degallman did not repair to Paris; to the ſending of Count Cobenzel to Berlin and Ruſſia; and to the difficulties raiſed at Vienna to receive the Ciſalpine Ambaſſador. It finally demonſtrates the hoſtile diſpoſition of the Emperor with reſpect to the march of the Ruſſians across Moravia and Auſtria, which are on the confines of Bavaria, already occupied by an army of 100,000 Auſtrians.

The Directory, in the ſame meſſage, accuſes the Grand Duke of Tuſcany of perfidy towards the Republic, and of connivance with the enemies of France. It expoſes his ſecret negociations with the Cabinet of St James's, particularly by the poſſeſſion of Leghorn by the Engliſh, againſt which he merely oppoſed ill-directed efforts.

The meſſage concludes with a formal propoſition of declaring war againſt the Emperor and the Grand Duke.

The Patriote of the 13th gives an account of the firſt ſucceſſes experienced by the republican arms in the following words:

"We joyfully announce a happy prelude of ſucceſs on the part of our armies. A courier juſt arrived from Switzerland brings intelligence that the troops, under the command of Maſſena and another General, has taken 4,500 Auſtrians together with the commander of Coire (Chur), the capital of the Griſon country, and all the ſtaff of that army."

GERMANY.

The miſſion of Mr Grenville to Berlin is ſaid to have brought to light ſome ſecret articles in the treaty of Campo Formio, between the Emperor and France, the hiſtory of which is as curious as the articles are intereſting. The Abbe Sieyes, fearing that the propoſals of the Britiſh miſſionary might be accepted, preſented his Pruſſian Majeſty with a copy of the above mentioned treaty, by which it appears that his Imperial Majeſty had betrayed the intereſts of the Empire, by agreeing to ſurrender to the French Republic the moſt important fortreſſes on the banks of the Rhine, the poſſeſſion of which had facilitated the march of the French army into the heart of Germany. The Emperor having returned no anſwer to the requiſition made regarding the retreat of the Ruſſian troops, as ſtated in our laſt, General Jourdan, with 25,000 men, at four o'clock on the morning of the 1ſt March, paſſed the Rhine, at Kehl; the right wing immediately proceeded through Offenburg into the Briſgau. The French Miniſters, at the ſame time, delivered to the Deputation of the Empire the following Proclamation of the Executive Directory:

"The troops of his Majeſty the Emperor, King of Hungary and Bohemia, regardleſs of a convention made at Raſtadt, have paſſed again the river Inn, and marched out of the hereditary dominions.

"This movement is combined with the march of the Ruſſian troops, who loudly declare to have come to attack and combat the French Republic, and who are actually ſtationed in the territories of the Emperor.

"Always faithful to the obligations it has entered into—always animated with the ſincereſt wiſh to preſerve peace—always inclined to ſuppoſe his Imperial Majeſty to have the ſame ſentiments, the French government has demanded a ſatisfactory declaration reſpecting the march of the Ruſſian troops, and the paſſage which is granted them.

"*The Emperor has made no anſwer.* The Executive Directory therefore feels itſelf forced by the neceſſity of a lawful defence, and the duty incumbent upon every government to provide for its ſafety, to make the French armies take the poſition which circumſtances require; but it declares that its wiſh for peace is immutable, and that from the moment his Imperial Majeſty ſhall make known, by a friendly declaration, that the Ruſſians have evacuated his dominions, and that his own troops have again returned to the poſitions fixed in the Convention of Raſtadt, the French troops will alſo, on their part, occupy their former poſitions."

General Maſſena entered the Griſon country on the 3d of March, and took 5,000 Auſtrians, 24 pieces of cannon, together with General Auffenburgh, and

and Chur the capital of the Grisons. The column under General Bernadotte which crossed near Manheim, of which it took possession, continued its route with the utmost rapidity by Hailberg and Hailbron. It is said that the General made this haste for the purpose of being before-hand with the Austrians, and to form a line from Philingen to Heilbron, along the Necker, on both sides of which river are high mountains and advantageous positions. The fame General, after crossing the Rhine, summoned the fort of Philipsbourgh to surrender, which the Governor refused. The army under General Jourdan marched directly into the interior of Swabia, leaving a garrison in Offenburgh. His principal head quarters were on the 6th of March at Villingen, in the Black Forest. General St Cyr, who commands the left wing of the French army, has entered the dutchy of Wirtemburg by the Kniebis mountains, and is said to have taken possession of Stutgard. The Duke, who had been for some time at open war with the provincial diet, has repaired to Louisbourg. General Championet, after having commanded at the conquest of Naples, has been put under arrest on the charge of having infringed upon the power of the civil commissioner, appointed by government to act with the army, and having thereby been guilty of open insurrection against the government. The commissioner Faypoult is his accuser.

ITALY.

The important event of his Neapolitan Majesty's being driven from his capital and his throne, was noticed in our last; since which, some interesting particulars relating thereto have transpired. The situation of General Mack in Capua becoming desperate, a great multitude of peasants and lazaroni assembled in Naples, where the French troops were expected soon to arrive, and proclaimed Prince Militorn, who had gained their confidence by his vigorous defence of Capua, Captain-General: he for some time endeavoured to restrain the unbridled violence of this banditti, who, under the name of defenders of religion, royalty, and order, commited the most horrid acts of injustice and barbarity upon all those whom they suspected to be friendly to the French cause; but, finding all his efforts fruitless, humanity dictated to him and to some of his friends, that it would be better even to deliver Naples into the hands of the French republic, than to suffer it to be pillaged by so ungovernable a rabble. In this state of things, therefore, he went in secret to Caserta, to concert measures with Championet for saving the city from destruction. All the subsequent events were the result of an agreement between them. A great number of the lazaroni marched in a body to the very walls of Capua, which they attempted to take by assault. The 19th and 20th of January were spent in fruitless efforts to this end, in which they were dreadfully cut by case-shot. Hearing, at length, that a French column was at the gates of Naples, they marched rapidly back to assist their comrades, who obstinately defended the avenues of the city. After blocking up the streets with the furniture of the houses, they divided into several bodies, the better to repel the French, and fought the whole of the 22d, and part of the 23d, when the republicans at length forced a passage. On their entrance, the castles of Novo, St Elmo, and Del Uovo, surrendered without resistance, but the citadale of the Carmelites, occupied by the lazaroni, stood a siege of three hours. Meanwhile, the lazaroni and the peasants, who retired fighting from street to street, were driven to the gate, where they rallied for the last time, and were defeated. At night General Championet entered the city.

His Sardinian Majesty, also lately deposed by French republicans, was escorted to Tuscany by French dragoons. He then went to Poggio-Imperiale, a summer palace of the Grand Duke, accompanied by Chisault a French officer, in whose presence he had a conference with the Pope. This officer was directed to ascertain the health of Pius the VIth. but found him too weak to travel, especially by sea. The titles of the Piedmontese nobility were burnt on the 21st of January, under the tree of liberty.

IRELAND.

The general aspect of affairs in Ireland, continues to be extremely distressing.

treffing. From the proceedings of government in that kingdom, there can be no doubt that their information leads them to expect, either a freſh attempt at invaſion on the part of the enemy, or a renewal of thoſe unhappy diſturbances which have already been the means of ſpreading deſolation and miſery over the face of that country—or both of theſe evils together.

That the French are preparing ſome expedition deſtined againſt the ſafety and tranquillity of theſe kingdoms, (particularly Ireland) is the general belief of the friends of adminiſtration.

The information brought by the mail, clearly developes the ſyſtem on which the leaders of the rebels are acting, and the means which government is wiſely employing to cruſh this horrid and brutal conſpiracy. It appears, from the proceedings in the Houſe of Lords on the 9th of March, that ſevere as the bill brought into parliament by the Attorney General was thought to be, it is not conceived adequate to meet all the exigencies which the nature of the caſe ſeems to require; and accordingly a clauſe was propoſed to enable courts martial to try and puniſh with death, or otherwiſe, perſons ſuſpected of aiding, aſſiſting, and abetting rebellion.

Although every friend to liberty muſt deplore the neceſſity of ſuch a law, yet there appear very ſufficient motives to juſtify it. The Lord Chancellor has declared that the authors of theſe cruel outrages were men who acted behind the ſcene, and on whom no puniſhment attached by the preſent laws. A new rebel directory has been formed, which keeps up the ſpirit of rebellion under the hopes of early aſſiſtance from the enemy. The clauſe introduced in the bill before the Houſe of Lords in Ireland is evidently pointed at theſe directors.

In order to prevent their eſcape, Lord Caſtlereagh has written to the Lord Mayor of Dublin, informing him that no perſon will be permitted to leave the kingdom without a paſſport, nor will any perſon be ſuffered to land in any part of this kingdom without being able to produce one.

A proclamation to the ſame effect has been iſſued from the Court of St James's, dated 15th March.

Arms, ammunition, ſtores, equipage, &c. are nearly in readineſs for an army of 40,000 men to take the field at the ſhorteſt notice; and orders have been iſſued from the Commiſſary General's office, to the proprietors of the boats on the grand canal, to wave all private engagements, ſhould they be required to carry proviſions, ſtores, &c. for the army: ſimilar orders have iſſued from the Adjutant General's office, with reſpect to the conveyance of troops.

IRISH PARLIAMENT.

On the 20th of February the Iriſh Attorney-General introduced his promiſed bill for "Suppreſſing the rebellion at preſent exiſting in the country," prefacing it with the obſervation that the object of it was to give to the Lord Lieutenant a power of iſſuing orders for the ſummary puniſhment of offenders by military law; and alſo for preventing the civil power from interfering with the deciſions of courts-martial, as had been latterly too much the caſe by perſons having been brought up to the Court of King's Bench by habeas corpus, after having only eſcaped death by the lenity of the courts-martial, by which they had been tried, and by which their puniſhment had been converted into tranſportation.

Many members expreſſed their abhorrence at the principle of the bill, as going to ſubſtitute a complete military deſpotiſm in the country, at a time when no apparent neceſſity exiſted for ſuch a ſtrong and unconſtitutional meaſure, and Mr Plunket, Mr Barrington, and Mr Moore ſpoke very ably in reprobation of it.—The bill was read a firſt time, ordered to be printed, and to be read a ſecond time on Tueſday, February 26th, and afterwards ſome amendments were propoſed, and negatived, and the act paſſed.

The Lord Chancellor on the 9th of March, the Houſe of Lords having formed themſelves into a Committee on this bill, moved, among other clauſes, that courts-martial ſhould be empowered to puniſh with death, or otherwiſe, perſons ſuſpected of aiding, aſſiſting or abetting, rebellion, or injuring the perſons or property of his Majeſty's loyal ſubjects, in furtherance of ſuch rebellion. Lord Farnham approved of the principle of the bill, but thought it was going too far to try perſons on ſuſpicion. The Lord Chancellor expreſſed his regret at the neceſſity of ſo ſevere

a clauſe, which yet he deemed indiſpenſable, as a new rebel directory in the country were inciting to maſſacre and devaſtation, by a promiſe of aid from France, for which the lurking traitors only waited, as a ſignal for general inſurrection. The ſeveral clauſes, one of which exonerates perſons acting under the bill from the operations of the courts of law, paſſed the Committee, and on being reported to the Houſe, the Duke of Leinſter ſaid, the executive had before poſſeſſed abundant power, and he was aſhamed to ſee ſuch an unconſtitutional act upon the ſtatute books. Lord Aitamont ſaid he was not aſhamed of the bill, but of the neceſſity which called for it.

LONDON.

On the 31ſt of January, two days after the Proſerpine frigate ſailed from Yarmouth, the ſhip was cloſe up with Heligoland, whence ſhe got off with a pilot. The ſame night ſhe lay at anchor at the mouth of the river Elbe. On Feb. 1. ſhe weighed, and proceeded a little way up the river, when ſhe touched ground; but after a ſhort time had the good fortune to get off, and proceeded a little farther, when it fell a dead calm, and ſhe came to anchor abreaſt of Newark Iſland. At this period, ſo much ice was coming down the river, that it was judged prudent to put out to ſea; but ſhe had not proceeded far, before ſhe again ſtruck on the ſand abreaſt of the Scarhorn Beacon, about two miles from land, where the remains of the ſhip ſtill lie, without the proſpect of ever being got off. When ſhe firſt ſtruck, though ſurrounded with ice on all ſides, every exertion was made to get her off at high water. All her guns, ſhot, and ſtores of every kind were thrown over board: But all endeavours failed; and on the morning of the ſecond it was reſolved that all hands ſhould leave the ſhip, and endeavour to reach Newark: the paſſengers and crew all ſet off together; but the weather was ſo intenſely cold, that about twelve men and boys, and a woman and her child died on the way. One marine reached the light-houſe, but ſoon after died, owing to his drinking too much liquor. Two of the marines, miſſing, are thought to have returned to the ſhip, where they muſt have periſhed. They are ſuppoſed to have gone back for the purpoſe of plunder. The people reached the Iſland in about two hours and a half, after a very fatiguing march over the ice. Mr Grenville bore the hardſhips with courage, and never once ſeemed caſt down with the dangers that ſurrounded him: he was ſeveral hours in the water up to the middle. He arrived without even a change of linen, but ſaved his diſpatches, and the other paſſengers loſt their all. The officers of the ſhip had not a change of cloaths left; they muſtered, on landing, 173 perſons, including officers, paſſengers, and men."

Feb. 8. An awful phenomenon occurred in the Iſle of Wight:—A large tract of land, containing 130 acres, with a dwelling-houſe and other edifices upon it, occupied by Farmer Hervey, was ſuddenly ſeparated from the adjoining ground, and propelled forwards towards the ſea; leaving, in the place which it before occupied, a ſtupendous gulph or chaſm that inſtantly filled with water. The eſtate in queſtion was ſituated on the ſouthern coaſt of the iſland, a wild romantic tract of country, which wears every appearance of having heretofore experienced many ſimilar lapſes or landſlips.

25. This day, James Turnbull was tried at the Old Bailey, upon the capital charge of a robery, by putting T. Finch in fear, and taking from his Majeſty's mint in the Tower, (See p. 69.) four bags, containing upwards of 2000 guineas: it was firſt laid to be the property of the moneyers of the mint; in a ſecond count, of the governors and company of the Bank of England; in a third, of the keepers of the mint; in the fourth, to be the property of the ſaid Thomas Finch, and upon which he was tried.—The Jury returned a verdict of *Guilty*.

Treaſonable Practices.

March 2. At a late hour laſt night, ſeventeen perſons taken into cuſtody at a houſe in Red-lion-court, Red-lion-ſtreet, were brought up for examination at the Duke of Portland's office; after their examination, they were all, except one, ſent to Clerkenwell and Tothillfields priſons, together with the landlord of the houſe. They are ac-

cuſed of having aſſembled as United Iriſhmen.

Thirty one perſons, of the ſame deſcription were brought up to the police office in Malborough-ſtreet, and committed to priſon. They were taken out of a houſe in St Giles's.

The report of the ſecret committee of the Houſe of Commons on the treaſonable documents lately preſented to the Houſe, by order of his Majeſty, is of great length; but the new facts which it contains, are not ſo numerous as they are important. Theſe relate principally to the plans and objects of the different ſocieties of United Engliſhmen, United Scotchmen, and United Iriſhmen, particularly thoſe of the latter, the London diviſions of whom, according to the report, meditated an attack at the ſame time, on both Houſes of Parliament, the Tower, and the Bank. Since detection of the various conſpiracies of thoſe ſocieties, numbers of their members have aſſociated themſelves at Hamburgh, with the ſame treaſonable intentions againſt theſe kingdoms. In conſequence of the diſcoveries which have thus been made, ſome new laws will ſhortly be propoſed, for the better prevention of political meetings, and the diſperſion of illegal ſocieties.

In this report we find the copy of a paper found on the perſons recently taken up at a public-houſe, in Red-lion-court, and it ſufficiently explains the cauſe and the neceſſity for their being apprehended. We alſo find the circumſtances confirmed, that the enemy, in league with domeſtic traitors, was fitting out a moſt formidable armament at Breſt to invade Ireland, intending at the ſame time to attempt a diverſion by another French force on different points of the coaſts of this kingdom. Another armament, whoſe object is the ſame, is fitting out in the Texel.

Upon a review of all the circumſtances, it appears, that, either directly or indirectly, a continual intercourſe and connection has been maintained between all theſe ſocieties in Great Britain and Ireland, and that the real objects of the inſtigators of theſe proceedings in both kingdoms, are no other than the entire overthrow of the Britiſh conſtitution, the general confiſcation of property, and the erection of a democratic republic, founded on the ruins of all religion, and of all political and civil ſociety, and framed after the model of France.

This ſyſtem has been clearly developed, and rivals in infamy the moſt horrid tranſactions of the French revolution, which ſeems to be the model theſe traitors are moſt anxious to imitate. The intimate connection kept up by the rebels in the two kingdoms, who have ſent their emiſſaries backward and forward, when correſpondence was likely to be detected, appears to be the reaſon of the late proclamation prohibiting the intercourſe between the two kingdoms without a paſſport. The rebels in both countries appear ſubject to the ſame chiefs.

March 12. Many ſecret courts have been held lately at the India houſe, generally three or four a week. What is underſtood to be the immediate object of theſe frequent conſultations, is ſaid to be an enquiry into ſome illicit trade that has been carrying on in India for ſome time paſt by perſons who are either in the Company's ſervice, or living in India under its authority as free merchants; and it is ſuſpected that this intercourſe will involve ſome conſiderable mercantile houſes in this country, to whom the cargoes were addreſſed.

The government of Bengal having reaſon to ſuſpect this illicit traffic, and that it was carried on to a conſiderable extent, one of the council propoſed that private letters addreſſed to particular perſons ſhould be opened. This was agreed to, and it led to the diſcovery of a correſpondence which developed a wide ſcene of fraud on the Company. It was found that no fewer than thirteen ſhips had very recently ſailed from Bengal under Daniſh colours, but which in fact belonged to Engliſh merchants. Directions were accordingly diſpatched without delay to the Cape, to St Helena, and to England, giving notice of theſe ſhips, which were ordered to be detained if they came into port. Three or four of theſe ſhips have been ſtopped at the Cape: two were carried into St Helena by a cruiſer ſent to intercept them; and two are already arrived in England and detained. It is thought the Eaſt India Com-

Company will get poſſeſſion of all of them, as the neceſſary documents have been ſent home, proving them to have carried on an illicit trade.

There has been a dreadful fire at the Cape of Good Hope. It burnt a great quantity of naval and victualing ſtores, and forty dragoon horſes, which are very valuable in that place. The ſtore-houſes are ſuſpected to have been wilfully ſet on fire. The damage done is very conſiderable.

The total amount of the money advanced by the Bank of England for the public ſervice, and out-ſtanding on the 7th of Dec. 1798, was 6,777,739l. 0s. 9d.

The ſubſcription at Lloyd's for the relief of the relatives of the gallant fellows who fell in the battle of the Nile, amounts to 30,049l 8s. 9d.

Bank report to March 8.

Voluntary Contributions	-	1,665,837	3	2
Aſſeſſed Taxes	-	839,323	17	6
	L.	2,505,161	0	8

Captures ſince December.

St Joſeph, Spaniſh privateer, four guns; La Ruſee, French brig, 14 guns, by the St Fiorenzo and Triton.

A French privateer, two guns, by the El Corſo.

La Minerve privateer, 16 guns, by the Indefatigable.

A French privateer, 14 guns, by the Triton.

La Rancune cutter, two guns, by the Pigmy cutter.

Le Bon Orde privateer, 16 guns, and L'Air ſchooner, by the Clyde.

La Prudencia Spaniſh ſchooner, one gun, and La Caſualidad, ſix guns, by the Endymion.

Le Grand Indien privateer, 20 guns, by the Shannon.

L'Aimable Victoire, 18 guns, by the Triton.

Noſtra Senora del Pont St Buonaverta, ſix guns, by the Fairy ſloop.

Le Tartar French privateer, by the Cormorant.

A Spaniſh man of war brig, 16 guns, by the Santa Dorothea.

El Bolante Spaniſh ſhip, four guns; La Garoone French ſhip, 10 guns, by the Flora and Caroline.

Le Mondovi corvette, 16 guns, by the Flora.

La Serailleur privateer, 12 guns, by the Caroline.

La Boulonnois privateer, 14 guns, by the Anſon.

La Glaneur privateer, ſix guns, by the Fly.

Fourdroyant privateer, 20 guns, by the Phœnix.

Le Guadaloupienne, 10 guns, La Prizes de Matthe, eight guns, La Bordelais, ſix guns, by the Amphitrite.

La Proſperite ſchooner, eight guns, by the Solebay.

L'Independence brig, 12 guns, by the Pearl.

Le Quartorze Juillet, 14 guns, by the Santa Margaretta.

La Tombe cutter, eight guns, by the Cyane.

A French privateer, 12 guns, deſtroyed by the Victorieuſe.

Le Milan French privateer, 14 guns, by the Boadicea and Atalante.

L'Armee d'Italie privateer, 18 guns, by La Perdix.

La Jaſon privateer, 14 guns, by the Jalouſe.

La Zele privateer, 16 guns, by the Melpomene.

Le Mercure privateer, 16 guns, by the Melampus.

L'Hirondelle corvette, 16 guns, by the brig Telegraph.

A French privateer, by the Naiad and St Fiorenzo.

L'Heureux Hazard privateer, 16 guns, by the Naiad.

EDINBURGH.

The total quantity of ſugar imported into Great Britain from the Weſt Indies in one year, from January 1798 to January 1799, was 2,361,715 cwt. the duty on which was 2,070,377l. of which, 305,354l. was repaid as drawbacks on raw ſugar exported, and 216,659l. as bounty on refined ſugar exported. The quantity of rum imported in the ſame period, was 4,196,193 gallons, the duty on which amounted to 95,996l.

Notwithſtanding the large quantities of Stock now buying up by the Commiſſioners of National Debt, in conſequence of the redemption of the Land Tax, in addition to their former purchaſes, the Public funds have rather

fallen than riſen during the laſt month. The expectation of a deferred loan may probably be the cauſe.

March 1. The three ſhoemakers convicted of unlawful combinations to raiſe their wages, whoſe trial was noticed p. 141, were this day adjudged to one month's impriſonment in the Tolbooth, and then to be ſet at liberty.

At Glaſgow, three boys, under ten years of age, went into a public houſe in the Dovehill, and drank ſuch a quantity of whiſky that one of them died next morning; the other two were very ill, but recovered.

9. About ten o'clock on Thurſday night, a fire broke out in the garret ſtorey of a tenement, eaſt corner of Candlerigg's-ſtreet, Trongate, Glaſgow, occupied by a book binder as his workſhop. It raged in a dreadful manner for about two hours. Beſides the deſtruction of the houſes, vaſt damage is ſuſtained by the loſs of furniture, books, &c.

A melancholy event occurred at Haddington on the 8th inſt. A private of the Pembroke Light Dragoons, on guard that day, was found by the patrole on going their rounds, in a public houſe; in conveying him to the guard room, the wretch ſtabbed the ſerjeant of the party under the left breaſt, and afterwards in two other places. The unhappy man died in about ten minutes.

Two ſhocks of an earthquake (ſimilar to thoſe which began at the ſame place ſome years ago) have been lately felt at and near Comrie in Perthſhire; one on the 17th of January, and the other on the 24th of February. The motion of the earth was from weſt to eaſt, and laſted about two ſeconds, but the ſubterraneous noiſe which accompanied it continued much longer.

16. In the head of the Canongate, two carters, one of the name of *Macdonald* and the other *Serf*, quarrelled about their coals, when Macdonald gave the other ſuch a violent blow as to cauſe his almoſt inſtant death.

A dreadful fire broke out at Greenock, in a ſail cloth maker's, on the 16th, which did great damage. Beſides the houſes, upwards of 600 bolls of wheat, 100 puncheons of rum, 400 bags of ſugar, and many other articles were conſumed.

23. Yeſterday was launched from the building yard of William Sibbald and Co. merchants, Leith, the ſhip Lady Forbes, of five hundred tons, belonging to that company, eſteemed one of the fineſt ſhips ever built in this country.

Chriſtian M'Lean, who lately made her eſcape from Lanark jail, has been apprehended at Dumfries, for breaking into a houſe and ſtealing fifteen pounds which was found upon her, as alſo a copy of her indictment to ſtand trial for houſe-breaking, at the Glaſgow Circuit on Tueſday next!

28. On Monday the Royal Edinburgh Light Dragoons were reviewed on Muſſelburgh Links, by his excellency the Commander in Chief. It is but juſtice to this reſpectable corps to ſay, both men and horſes were remarkably ſteady, and went through their evolutions with alertneſs and preciſion, and the company, which was numerous and faſhionable, was highly gratified by the handſome appearance of the corps. After the review, an elegant ſilver cup was preſented to Major Maitland by the non-commiſſioned officers and privates. The Magiſtrates of Muſſelburgh, in compliment to the regular and orderly conduct of the corps, while quartered there, gave them an elegant dinner, and preſented to each individual the freedom of the town. The evening concluded with a ball given by the corps.

The new play called the *Confeſſion*, ſaid to be the production of Alexander Whyte Eſq; Advocate, ſon of General Whyte, was acted on Monday to a crouded audience, who teſtified much approbation throughout.

High Court of Juſticiary.

27. Yeſterday came on the trial of *M. Kirby*, (on a new indictment), for a fraud on the Britiſh Linen Company. The examination of witneſſes occupied the attention of the Court till about four o'clock. The Solicitor General then addreſſed the Jury, with great ability on the part of the Crown, as did alſo Mr Joſeph Bell in behalf of the pannel. This day the Jury returned a verdict, all in one voice finding the pannel *guilty*.—The Court ſentenced him to be tranſported beyond ſeas for five years.

THE month of March has been unuſually cold throughout. The labours of

of the field had been fo far advanced, that any obſtruction was not felt. Vegetation being alſo kept back, will perhaps be no loſs. The thermometer has ranged in the ſhade at noon, from 33° to 55°. The weather has been dry, and pretty clear to the 15th, from that to the end there was rain or ſnow almoſt daily, though not in great quantity; the wind almoſt invariably from the N. Eaſt. The markets continue moderate, and are well ſupplied particularly with beef, pork, and veal. Lamb continues ſcarce and dear, from 3s. to 5s. per quarter. Fiſh have been rather ſcarce this month. Salmon 1s. 4d. per lb. The herrings ſtill continue in the Frith.

The Engliſh report ſays, the weather for the moſt part of the month has been unuſually ſevere; cold northerly winds, attended with froſts, have almoſt conſtantly prevailed; and in ſome of the more northerly diſtricts there have been ſlight falls of ſnow. The general buſineſs of agriculture has not, however, been much retarded by theſe circumſtances; in many dry and warm ſituations, oats and even barley have already been ſown, though not to any great extent. The proceſs of vegetation, eſpecially in winter corn and graſſes, has not proceeded with its accuſtomed degree of vigour. If fine weather ſhould, however, ſoon take place, we are rather inclined to believe, that the check which has been given by the late ſeverity of the ſeaſon, may, in ſome meaſure, prove beneficial to the future crops. No material injury has certainly yet been done to the growth of any thing. The few turnips which have eſcaped the ſeverity of the weather, will ſoon be cleared off by the fattening of cattle, many of which, in ſome places, ſtill remain on hand. Fodder is rather ſcarce in the northern diſtricts; hay and ſtraw have conſequently increaſed much in price of late. The latter is, indeed, extremely high. Grain in many parts of the country is plentiful, and does not yet riſe much in price.

LISTS.

MARRIAGES.

At London, Wm Maxwell, Eſq; of Carriden, to Miſs Mary Charlotte Bouverie, third daughter of the Hon. Edward Bouverie, M. P. for Northampton.

At Bath, Major Charles Park, of the 27th foot, to Miſs Jane Gibſon.

March 4. Adam Gordon, Eſq; of Cairnfield, to Miſs Cruickſhank, eldeſt daughter of the late Patrick Cruickſhank of Stracathro, Eſq.

6. Mr John Buller, purſer in the royal navy, to Miſs Grace Johnſton, daughter of the late Mr Robert Johnſton, merchant in Edinburgh.

— At Gordon's Mills, near Aberdeen, Wm Anderſon, Eſq; merchant in Stirling, to Miſs Jane Still, daughter of the late John Still of Millden, Eſq.

10. Major-Gen. Lord Chas. Fitzroy, ſon of the Duke of Grafton, to Lady Frances Stewart, daughter of the Earl of Londonderry.

11. Mr Alexander Campbell, writer, to Miſs Elizabeth Campbell, daughter of Mr John Campbell, merchant in Glaſgow.

— At Archerfield, the Right Hon. the Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, to Miſs Nisbet, daughter of William Hamilton Nisbet of Belſhaven and Dirleton, Eſq.

19. At Margate, Robert Anſtruther, Eſq; Lieutenant-Colonel of the 68th regiment of foot, and eldeſt ſon of Sir Robert Anſtruther, Bart. of Balcaſkie, to Miſs Hamilton, daughter of James Hamilton, Eſq; late Colonel of the Guards.

19. The Rev. George Murray, miniſter of the goſpel at North Berwick, to Miſs Elizabeth Renton, daughter of the deceaſed Mr James Renton, merchant in Berwick.

20. At Edinburgh, Lieutenant J. A. E. Duncombe, of the Shropſhire militia, to Miſs Jane Douglas, daughter of the late Lieutenant-General Douglas, Colonel of the 5th dragoon-guards.

21. At Edinburgh, Mr John M'Ritchie, writer in Edinburgh, to Miſs Margaret H. Elder, daughter of Thomas Elder, Eſq. of Forneth, Poſtmaſter General for Scotland.

— At Edinburgh, George Ranken, Eſq; in the ſervice of the Eaſt India Company, to Miſs Agnes Allan, eldeſt daughter of Robert Allan, Eſq; banker in Edinburgh.

25. At Bankend, Mr Robert Craig of Over-Newton, to Miſs Mary Gow, eldeſt daughter of Mr William Gow, merchant in Glaſgow.

— At Glaſgow, Mr George Pinkerton, merchant, to Miſs Ecken, daughter of the late Dr Ecken of the royal artillery.

— At Craigie houſe, John Kay, of Anniſton, to Miſs Elizabeth Guthrie, ſecond daughter of James Guthrie of Craigie, Eſq.

20. John Urquhart of Craigſton, Eſq; to Miſs Iſabella Moir, youngeſt daughter of the late George Moir of Scotſtown, Eſq.

BIRTHS.

At Sudbury in Suffolk, Lady Margaret Maclean, a ſon.

March

March 1. At London, the Lady of Commiſſioner Hope, of the navy, a ſon.

5. The Counteſs of Derby, a daughter.

6. Mrs Ferguſon of Balyoukan, a daughter.

7. Mrs Bruce of Kennet, a ſon.

11. Hon. Mrs Charteris, a daughter.

— Her Grace the Ducheſs of Atholl, a ſon.

— Mrs Roſe Innes of Netherdale, a ſon.

15. Hon. Mrs Captain Hunter, a ſon.

18. Mrs Sinclair Aytoun of Inchdairney, a ſon.

DEATHS.

At Madras, Francis Napier, Eſq; eldeſt ſon of the Hon. Charles Napier of Merchiſton Hall.

At Cape Town, Edward Hay, Eſq; formerly ſecretary-general, and late member of the board of revenue, Bengal.

At Nevis, in January laſt, the Hon. George Fraſer, ſon of the late George, Lord Saltoun.

At Montreal, Canada, General Gabriel Clarke, in January laſt.

At Lerwick, janet Yanſon, aged 102, who retained her faculties to the laſt.—She was married 63 years, and had carefully preſerved her wedding ſhirt to be her ſhroud. Her huſband, George Gordon, aged 97 years, is yet able to walk one or two miles a day.

Lately, at Eaglesfield, Cumberland, Mr Joſeph Wilſon, aged 100, one of the people called Quakers.

Lately, at Bath, in the 89th year of his age, Wm Melmoth, Eſq; the celebrated tranſlator of the Epiſtles of Pliny and Cicero, and author of the Letters publiſhed under the name of Sir Thomas Fitzoſborne, and ſeveral poetical pieces in Dodſley's Collection.

Lately, Alexander Leſlie, Eſq; of Wardhill.

Lately, at Craſſide, in the county of Durham, at the advanced age of 104, Simon Harrison, a noted pedeſtrian. He reſided many years in a neat ſtone cottage of his own building, every particle of which he had carried on his head, it being his practice to bring home, on every journey or meſſage in which he was employed, the pureſt ſtone he could pick up for his purpoſe, till he had completed his collection. Although the motive ceaſed, the practice continued, as he imagined a weight on his head facilitated his walking. If any body enquired the reaſon, he uſed facetiouſly to anſwer, "'Tis to keep my hat on."

Feb. 3. At Tortrole, Mr Robert Douglas, late Maſter in the royal navy, and teacher of Mathematics in the Academy there.

10. At London, Dr Charles Morton, M. D. F. R. S. and A. S. principal librarian of the Britiſh Muſeum.

11. At Edinburgh, Mr James Greig, writer.

— At Aberdeen, the Right Rev. Dr John Geddes.

— At Dumfries, John Oughterſon, Eſq; of Milnthred.

— At Rothſay, John Robertſon, Eſq; merchant.

13. At Murraythwaite, Alexander Murray, Eſq; younger of Tundergarth.

— At London, the Right Honourable Earl Cowper.

— Alexander Fraſer, Eſq; of Struy.

13. At Munich, the Elector of Bavaria.

15. At Glaſgow, Wm Leckie, Eſq; of Broich, in the 81ſt year of his age.

— Mr John Calder, manufacturer in Paiſley.

— At Leith, Mr Alexander Stephen, late merchant in Glaſgow.

17. Rev. Archibald Bruce, miniſter of Shotts. He, that morning, had gone in ordinary health from his houſe, which is a mile diſtant from the church, and, as uſual, into an apartment in the ſchoolmaſter's, previous to ſermon, where he ſcarcely had been five minutes, when he fell down and expired without a groan.

18. At Edinburgh, Mr Thomas Cleghorn, Joint Inſpector General of Imports and Exports for Scotland.

19. Rev. Mr Thomas Thomſon, miniſter of the goſpel at Dailly in Ayrſhire.

20. Right Hon. Lionel Talmaſh, Earl of Dyſart.

— At Camelon Houſe, Captain Selkirk Stewart, of the firſt battalion of Breadalbane fencibles.

21. At Inverary, Captain Neil Campbell, Milford.

22. At Edinburgh, Mr Charles Robertſon, painter.

23. At Leith, Mr Alexander Milne, merchant.

24. N. Fenwick, Eſq; his Majeſty's Conſul at Ellineur, aged 70.

24. Mr Duncan Macmillan, writer in Edinburgh.

— At the manſe of Kirkpatrick-Juxta, the Rev. Mr Gabriel Scott, miniſter of that pariſh.

27. John Macdowall of Logan, Eſq.

March 3. At Cockney, John Hamilton of Barns, Eſq.

— J. Jackſon, gunner of Burrow Caſtle, at the advanced age of 117. He boaſted much of having ſerved under the late Duke of Marlborough, and having ſince been engaged in nineteen different actions.

4. At Dumfries, James Ewart, Esq; of Mullock, aged 91.

— At London, the Right Hon. William, Anne Hollis Capel, Earl of Essex, Viscount Malden, Baron Hadham. His Lordship was born October 7. 1732, and married first, Frances, the daughter and heiress of Sir Charles Hanbury Williams, by his wife the Lady Frances, daughter of Thomas Earl of Coningsby; by whom he had issue George Viscount Malden (who succeeds him in his title and estates), and one daughter, Lady Elizabeth, who married John Lord Monson. His Lordship secondly married, on March the 3d 1767, Harriet, daughter of Colonel Thomas Bladon, by whom he has four sons now living. He was Lord of the Bedchamber to the late King, and held, at the time of his death, the same appointment to his present Majesty.

6. At Dumfries, George Milligan, Esq; of Gorehead, M. D. member of the American Philosophical Society.

10. At Anstruther, Alexander Cunningham, Esq; Captain in the Royal Navy. This gentleman behaved very gallantly in the two last wars, having been in no fewer than seventeen line-of-battle engagements. In the memorable victory gained by Admiral Boscawen over the French fleet in Lagos Bay, in 1759, he set fire with his own hand to the Ocean of 94 guns, the finest ship in the French navy, commanded by Admiral De la Clue, which had been run on shore, and burnt her to the water's edge.

— At Aberdeen, John Lumsden, Esq; of Rathen, in the 84th year of his age.

12. At Stow, Sarah Phillips, aged 100. She retained her faculties to the last, and was able to spin till within two months of her decease.

14. At Kellston Park, the Countess of Portmore; her Ladyship was the youngest daughter of John Earl of Rothes, and was married to the present Earl, by whom she has left three sons and three daughters.

15. James Sinclair of Forss, Esq.

16. At Fareham, Sir Charles Thompson, Bart. Vice Admiral of the Red, and third in command under Admiral Lord Bridport in the Channel service. His health had been on the decline ever since he had the fatigue of St Domingo; he was extremely ill during the whole of his last cruize off Brest, and survived only a few days after imminent danger of Sillaton had occasioned him to be superseded by Lord Hugh Seymour. He was made a Post Captain in 1744, a Rear Admiral in 1794, and on the last promotion was made a Vice Admiral of the Red. He commanded the Alcide, in the action with Lord Rodney and Count de Grasse, on the 12th of April, 1782; was with Sir John Jervis, in the reduction of the French islands; and second in command under the same commander, on the memorable 14th of February, in the defeat of the Spanish fleet.

— At London, Henry Robertson Barclay, of Cavill, Esq.

— At Aberdeen, Patrick Barron, Esq; of Woodside.

20. At Edinburgh, Captain James Keith, son of the late George Keith Marischall, Esq.

21. At Barotry, Yorkshire, Lieut.-Col. Hay Drummond, of the 5th West Yorkshire regiment of militia, and brother to the Earl of Kinnoul. His death was occasioned by a fall as he was going down the stone stair-case of his own house, owing to one of the stairs near the top giving way, by which he fractured his skull.

22. At Edinburgh, Captain John Rutherford, late of the 79th regiment, eldest son of the deceased Henry Rutherford of Hunthill, Esq.

26. At the Manse of Tinwald, the Rev. Mr James Laurie, minister of that parish, in the 47th year of his age, and the 16th of his ministry.

— At Edinburgh, John Fysse, Esq; late banker in that city.

27. At Armagh in Ireland, Captain Robert Hunter Blair, of the 68th regiment.

30. At London, the Right Hon. Lady Margaret Macdonald, grandmother of the present Lord Macdonald, and daughter of Alexander, the ninth Earl of Eglinton.

PREFERMENTS.

Lord Auckland, Right Hon. Henry Addington, Right Hon. Wm Pitt, Right Hon. Sir Richard Pepper Arden, Right Hon. Sir Wm Wynne, Right Hon. Sir Archibald Macdonald, and the Right Hon. Sylveiter Douglas, to be Commissioners for the Redemption of the Land Tax.

The honour of Knighthood on James Durno, Esq; of Arradhie.

Thomas Boulden Thompson, Esq; Captain in the Navy, the honour of Knighthood.

Lord Hawkesbury, to be Master and Worker of his Majesty's mint.

Major General Thomas Murray, to be Lieutenant Governor of Portsmouth.

Lord Lovington, to be Governor of the Caribee Islands.

Charles Arbuthnot, Esq; to be Consul General in Portugal.

Alexander Cockburn, Esq; to be Consul to the Circle of Lower Saxony.

Rev.

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5. The Counteſs of Derby, a daughter.

6. Mrs Ferguſon of Balyoukan, a daughter.

7. Mrs Bruce of Kennet, a ſon.

11. Hon. Mrs Charteris, a daughter.

— Her Grace the Ducheſs of Atholl, a ſon.

— Mrs Roſe Innes of Netherdale, a ſon.

15. Hon. Mrs Captain Hunter, a ſon.

18. Mrs Sinclair Aytoun of Inchdairney, a ſon.

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Feb. 5. At Fortroſe, Mr Robert Douglas, late Maſter in the royal navy, and teacher of Mathematics in the Academy there.

10. At London, Dr Charles Morton, M. D. F. R. S. and A. S. principal librarian of the Britiſh Muſeum.

11. At Edinburgh, Mr James Greig, writer.

— At Aberdeen, the Right Rev. Dr John Geddes.

— At Dumfries, John Oughterſon, Eſq; of Milnthred.

— At Rothſay, John Robertſon, Eſq; merchant.

13. At Murraythwaite, Alexander Murray, Eſq; younger of Tundergarth.

— At London, the Right Honourable Earl Cowper.

— Alexander Fraſer, Eſq; of Struy.

13. At Munich, the Elector of Bavaria.

15. At Glaſgow, Wm Leckie, Eſq; of Broich, in the 81ſt year of his age.

— Mr John Calder, manufacturer in Paiſley.

— At Leith, Mr Alexander Stephen, late merchant in Glaſgow.

17. Rev. Archibald Bruce, miniſter of Shotts. He, that morning, had gone in ordinary health from his houſe, which is a mile diſtant from the church, and, as uſual, into an apartment in the ſchoolmaſter's, previous to ſermon, where he ſcarcely had been five minutes, when he fell down and expired without a groan.

18. At Edinburgh, Mr Thomas Cleghorn, Joint Inſpector General of Imports and Exports for Scotland.

19. Rev. Mr Thomas Thomſon, miniſter of the goſpel at Dailly in Ayrſhire.

20. Right Hon. Lionel Talmaſh, Earl of Dyſart.

— At Camelon Houſe, Captain Selkirk Stewart, of the firſt battalion of Breadalbane fencibles.

21. At Inverary, Captain Neil Campbell, Milford.

22. At Edinburgh, Mr Charles Robertſon, painter.

23. At Leith, Mr Alexander Milne, merchant.

24. N. Fenwick, Eſq; his Majeſty's Conſul at Ellineur, aged 70.

24. Mr Duncan Macmillan, writer in Edinburgh.

— At the manſe of Kirkpatrick-Juxta, the Rev. Mr Gabriel Scott, miniſter of that pariſh.

27. John Macdowall of Logan, Eſq.

March 3. At Cockney, John Hamilton of Barns, Eſq.

— J. Jackſon, gunner of Burrow Caſtle, at the advanced age of 117. He boaſted much of having ſerved under the late Duke of Marlborough, and having ſince been engaged in nineteen different actions.

4.

4. At Dumfries, James Ewart, Esq; of Mullock, aged 91.

— At London, the Right Hon. William, Anne Hollis Capel, Earl of Essex, Viscount Malden, Baron Hadham. His Lordship was born October 7. 1732, and married first, Frances, the daughter and heiress of Sir Charles Hanbury Williams, by his wife the Lady Frances, daughter of Thomas Earl of Coningsby; by whom he had issue George Viscount Malden (who succeeds him in his title and estates), and one daughter, Lady Elizabeth, who married John Lord Monson. His Lordship secondly married, on March the 3d 1767, Harriet, daughter of Colonel Thomas Bladon, by whom he has four sons now living. He was Lord of the Bedchamber to the late King, and held, at the time of his death, the same appointment to his present Majesty.

9. At Dumfries, George Milligan, Esq; of Corehead, M. D. member of the American Philosophical Society.

10. At Anstruther, Alexander Cunningham, Esq; Captain in the Royal Navy. This gentleman behaved very gallantly in the two last wars, having been in no fewer than seventeen line-of-battle engagements. In the memorable victory gained by Admiral Boscawen over the French fleet in Lagos Bay, in 1759, he set fire with his own hand to the Ocean of 94 guns, the finest ship in the French navy, commanded by Admiral De la Clue, which had been run on shore, and burnt her to the water's edge.

— At Aberdeen, John Lumsden, Esq; of Rathen, in the 84th year of his age.

12. At Stow, Sarah Phillips, aged 100. She retained her faculties to the last, and was able to spin till within two months of her decease.

14. At Kellston Park, the Countess of Portmore; her Ladyship was the youngest daughter of John Earl of Rothes, and was married to the present Earl, by whom she has left three sons and three daughters.

18. James Sinclair of Forse, Esq.

19. At Fordham, Sir Charles Thompson, Bart. Vice Admiral of the Red, and third in command under Admiral Lord Bridport in the Channel service. His health had been on the decline ever since he had the fusion of St Domingo; he was extremely ill during the whole of his last cruize off Brest, and survived only a few days after imminent danger of suffocation had occasioned him to be superseded by Lord Hugh Seymour. He was made a Post Captain in 1745, a Rear Admiral in 1734, and on the last promotion was made a Vice Admiral of the Red. He commanded the Alcide, in the action with Lord Rodney and Count de Grasse, on the 12th of April, 1782; was with Sir John Jervis, in the reduction of the French islands; and second in command under the same commander, on the memorable 14th of February, in the defeat of the Spanish fleet.

— At London, Henry Robertson Barclay, of Cavill, Esq.

— At Aberdeen, Patrick Barron, Esq; of Woodside.

20. At Edinburgh, Captain James Keith, son of the late George Keith Marischall, Esq.

21. At Barotry, Yorkshire, Lieut.-Col. Hay Drummond, of the 5th West Yorkshire regiment of militia, and brother to the Earl of Kinnoul. His death was occasioned by a fall as he was going down the stone flair-case of his own house, owing to one of the flairs near the top giving way, by which he fractured his skull.

22. At Edinburgh, Captain John Rutherford, late of the 79th regiment, eldest son of the deceased Henry Rutherford of Hunthill, Esq.

26. At the Manse of Tinwald, the Rev. Mr James Laurie, minister of that parish, in the 47th year of his age, and the 16th of his ministry.

— At Edinburgh, John Fysse, Esq; late banker in that city.

27. At Armagh in Ireland, Captain Robert Hunter Blair, of the 68th regiment.

30. At London, the Right Hon. Lady Margaret Macdonald, grandmother of the present Lord Macdonald, and daughter of Alexander, the ninth Earl of Eglinton.

PREFERMENTS.

Lord Auckland, Right Hon. Henry Addington, Right Hon. Wm Pitt, Right Hon. Sir Richard Pepper Arden, Right Hon. Sir Wm Wynne, Right Hon. Sir Archibald Macdonald, and the Right Hon. Sylvester Douglas, to be Commissioners for the Redemption of the Land Tax.

The honour of Knighthood on James Durno, Esq; of Arochie.

Thomas Bowden Thompson, Esq; Captain in the Navy, the honour of Knighthood.

Lord Hawkesbury, to be Master and Worker of his Majesty's mint.

Major General Thomas Murray, to be Lieutenant Governor of Portsmouth.

Lord Livingston, to be Governor of the Caribbee Islands.

Charles Arbuthnot, Esq; to be Consul General in Portugal.

Alexander Cockburn, Esq; to be Consul to the Circle of Lower Saxony.

Rev.

Rev. Matthew Young, D.D. to be Biſhop of Clonfert and Kilmacduagh.

Rt Hon. Hare Corry, to be Chancellor of the Exchequer, Ireland.

St George Daly, Eſq; to be his Majeſty's Prime Serjeant, Ireland.

Wm Macdowall, Eſq; Governor, and Wm Tod, Eſq; Deputy-Governor of the Britiſh Linen Company.

The Duke of Buccleugh, Governor, and Gilbert Innes, Eſq; Deputy Governor, of the Royal Bank of Scotland.

Right Hon. Henry Dundas, Governor, and Patrick Miller, Eſq; of Dalſwinton, Deputy Governor of the Bank of Scotland.

The Rev. James Kirkpatrick, to be Miniſter of the parish of Kirk Owan, in the county of Wigton.

The Rev. Mr James Fowler, late of Fort Auguſtus, to be miniſter of the united parishes of Urquhart and Glenmoriſton, in the county of Invernes.

The University of Glaſgow has conferred the degree of Doctor of Medicine upon Mr John Barrie, from Kilbryde, Lanarkſhire.

New Members.

New Woodſtock—Charles Moore, Eſq; *vice* Lord Lavington, accepted a place.

Wareham—Joſeph Chaplin Hankey Eſq; *vice* Lord Robert Spencer, accepted ſteward of a Manor.

Beverley—John Bacon Sawrey Morrit, Eſq; *vice* William Catton, dead.

City of Litchfield—Sir John Wrottesley of Wrottesley, in the county of Stafford, Bart. in the room of the Right Hon. Granville Leveſon Gower, commonly called Lord Granville Leveſon Gower, who hath accepted the Chiltern Hundreds.

County of Montgomery—Charles Watkin Williams Wynn of Glaſcood-Hall, in the county of Montgomery, Eſq; *vice* Francis Lovel, Eſq; dead.

County of Stafford—The Right Hon. Granville Leveſon Gower, commonly called Lord Granville Leveſon Gower, *vice* the Right Hon. George Granville Leveſon Gower, commonly called Earl Gower, who hath accepted the Office of one of his Majeſty's Poſt-Maſters general.

Caſtle Caſtle—The Right Hon. Sir George Pigot, Knight of the Bath, *vice* Charles Watkin Williams Wynn, Eſq; who hath accepted the Chiltern Hundreds.

SEQUESTRATIONS.

Feb. 22. David Reid and Co. manufacturers in Glaſgow.

Jan. Andrew Gibb, merchant in Kirghorn *per* Kinross-ſhire, grocer in Edinburgh.

March 8. Robert M'Morran and Co. coal-maſters at Greenhill of Ladyrig.

7. John Gentles merchant in Stirling.

8. John Fraſer bleacher in Channelhall.

11. Alex. Farquharſon, cattle dealer in Achriachan, Banffſhire.

18. Henry Cowan butcher in Ayr.

SPRING CIRCUITS.

NORTH—*Lords Juſtice-Clerk and Craig.*		
Perth,	Saturday,	April 20.
Aberdeen,	Friday,	April 26.
Inverneſs,	Friday,	May 3.
SOUTH—*Lords Eſkgrove and Methven.*		
Jedburgh,	Tueſday,	April 2.
Dumfries,	Saturday,	April 6.
Ayr,	Friday,	April 12.
WEST—*Lord Dunſinnan.*		
Glaſgow,	Tueſday,	March 26.
Inverary,	Saturday,	March 30.
Stirling,	Friday,	April 5.

FIARS—*Crop* 1798.

Edinburghſhire.

Beſt Wheat, per boll,	L.	1	2 7
Second ditto, - -		1	1 0
Beſt Barley, - -		0	17 4
Second ditto, - -		0	16 0
Third ditto, - -		0	15 0
Beſt Oats, - -		0	14 0
Second ditto, - -		0	12 6
Peaſe and Beans, -		0	12 6
Beſt Oatmeal, - -		0	14 6

All Sterling money.

Kincardinſhire.

The boll of oatmeal,	L.	0	14 4
White oats, with fodder,		0	15 6
Ditto, without fodder,		0	13 6
Brocked oats, with fodder,		0	14 0
Ditto, without fodder,		0	12 0
Bear, with fodder,		0	15 0
Ditto, without fodder,		0	13 4
Peaſe, with fodder,		0	15 6
Ditto, without fodder,		0	13 0
Wheat, -		1	1 0

Haddingtonſhire.

	Wheat.	*Barley.*	*Oats.*	*Peaſe.*
Beſt---	23s. 8d.	19s. 5¼d.	15s. 0¾d.	12s. 10d.
Second,	22 8	18 6	14 8	12 5
Third,	22 0	17 9½	14 0¾	11 11¼

Haddington, March 29.

Wheat 26s. 6d. Barley, 19s. 6d. Oats, 15s. Peaſe, 13s. 6d. Beans, 14s.

Edinburgh, March 28. Oat-meal, 1s. 1d. Bear-meal, 11d. Peaſe-meal, 8½d.

PRICES OF STOCKS.

March 12.	March 26.
Bank Stock 130	129½
3 per cent red. 53⅞	54⅛
3 per cent. cons. 53⅞	53¾
4 per cent. 68½	69¼
India Stock 107	—
Lottery Tickets —	—

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EDINBURGH:

Sold by JAMES WATSON, No 40. South Bridge,
And by the Principal Bookſellers in Town and Country.
And by T. KAY, Strand, London.

NEW DISCOVERIES.

Patent for a Balance Lock for Canals.

A conſiderable ſhare of the mechanical ingenuity of the nation has been exerted in this intereſting province. The new profeſſion of civil engineers find here their chief employment; and canal navigation is in a train of improvement to the higheſt perfection of which it is ſuſceptible.

No one particular in the conſtruction of canals, is of greater conſequence or difficulty, than that which regards the connecting of canals of different levels into one courſe of uninterupted navigation. It is often impoſſible, without an exorbitant increaſe of an expence, which is always very great, to form a channel for a canal, of one unvarying level throughout the whole tract through which it is to be conducted. If, in ſuch caſes, means might be contrived for the convenient riſing or lowering of the veſſels in a canal from one level to another, it is eaſy to ſee that there would be a mighty improvement accompliſhed. To anſwer this end, various means had been, at different times, adopted. In China, is has long been uſual to *raiſe* or *lower* boats from one level of a canal to another, by means of balance-boats kept in reſerve at the *locks* at which the change of level takes place. Mr Robb, a Scotch clergyman, about thirteen or fourteen years ſince, ſuggeſted, among his friends, a very ſimple adaptation of the Chineſe contrivance to the uſe of the Britiſh canals; it was talked of as ingenious, but carried no farther towards execution. More recently, an invention, the ſame in principle, was propoſed for the ſames uſes by Dr James Anderſon, a man to whoſe activity and originality of genius, the arts in Britain are very highly indebted.

Mr James Fuſſell, iron-manufacturer of the county of Somerſet, has juſt obtained the King's letters patent, ſecuring to him, for the uſual ſpace of time, the ſole right to a *balance lock* which he has invented for the ſame raiſing or lowering of boats between different levels in a canal.

Patent for a Signal Trumpet.

The minds of ingenious men have for ſome time been turned conſiderably to the improvement of different arts connected with warfare. Mr Clerk's new ſyſtem of ſignals, &c. for the uſe of a fleet at ſea, during a naval engagement, are ſaid to have eſſentially contributed to the great victory which was gained by Lord Duncan. The *telegraphe* was found to deſerve, by its important utility, to be quickly borrowed, though an invention of the French, for the uſe of Britain.

William Fitzerald, Eſq. has obtained a patent for the ſole manufacture and ſale of a *ſignal trumpet* which he has recently invented for increaſing the powers of ſound, by ſea or on land. The ſignal is to be given by the application of a trumpet to a piſtol, or any other convenient piece of fire-arms, or ſmall artillery, in ſuch a manner, that the ſound of the diſcharge of a piſtol, &c. may be augmented by it, juſt as that of the human voice might be by the ſpeaking trumpet. The peculiarity of the invention conſiſts in the idea of the application of the trumpet to augment the ſound from the diſcharge of any piece of fire arms, and in the contrivance of the apparatus, by which the trumpet is connected with the piece to be fired. It has been made trial of by a committee of general military officers, whoſe approbation it has received. It may become uſeful on a variety of occaſions at ſea and on land.

THE

SCOTS MAGAZINE,

For APRIL 1799.

ACCOUNT OF WARREN HASTINGS, ESQ.

BY MAJOR JOHN SCOTT.

From Mr Seward's "Biographiana,"

MR HASTINGS was born in the year 1732-3, and deſcended from a family of great reſpectability, which for many centuries had poſſeſſed conſiderable eſtates in the counties of Worceſter and Glouceſter.

The father of Mr Haſtings was a Clergyman, and held the living of Churchill, in Glouceſterſhire, a village near Daylesford. On his deceaſe Mr Haſtings was removed by his uncle Mr Howard Haſtings to Weſtminiſter ſchool, where he was educated, and went into college the head of his election in the year 1746. His acquaintance with the firſt Lord Mansfield commenced while he was at Weſtminiſter ſchool, and at a time when the former was Solicitor General: Lord Mansfield, through life, profeſſed the ſtrongeſt friendſhip for him, and the higheſt opinion of his talents and public ſervices.

On the deceaſe of his uncle Howard Haſtings, whoſe fortune was inconſiderable compared to the general idea of its amount, young Warren Haſtings was to determine on his future ſituation. Doctor Nichols, the Head Maſter of Weſtminiſter ſchool, had ever treated him with the greateſt kindneſs, and, on ſo unexpected a turn in his fortune, offered to be himſelf at the whole expence of completing his education at Oxford. Mr Creſwick, an India Director, and executor of his uncle, offered him a writer's appointment to Bengal. Fortunately for his country, Mr Haſtings choſe the latter, embarked for Bengal in the winter of 1749, and arrived in Calcutta in the ſummer of 1750. The Engliſh at that time were mere merchants, and Calcutta an inconſiderable commercial town. They had factories alſo in different parts of Bengal for the purpoſe of providing an annual inveſtment for the Eaſt India Company, which was principally purchaſed by bullion ſent from England. To one of theſe factories Mr Haſtings was ſoon appointed, and from thence detached into the interior parts of Bengal, where, in a few years ſeclusion from the ſociety of his countrymen, he acquired a knowledge of the Perſian language, which few then poſſeſſed, though his example has ſince been ſo generally followed, that it is now critically underſtood by almoſt every civil ſervant of the Company, and by many of their officers in the army.

At the capture of Calcutta by the Nabob Surajah Doulah in 1756, orders were iſſued for the ſeiſure of every Engliſhman in Bengal, and Mr Haſtings was brought a priſoner to Moorſhadabad, the capital; but being well known to many men of rank at the Nabob's court, he was treated with indulgence, and allowed to reſide at the Dutch factory of Calcapore. When the fleet and army under Watſon and Clive arrived in the river of Bengal, Mr Haſtings joined Colonel Clive, and ſerved as a volunteer at the re-capture of Calcutta, and at the

night attack of the Nabob's camp. He then reſumed his civil appointments; and, after the depoſition of the Nabob Sarajah Doulah, became the Britiſh Miniſter at the court of his ſucceſſor. This office he filled with great credit to himſelf, and advantage to the public, until the year 1761, when he became a member of the government. In February 1765 he quitted Bengal with his friend Mr Vanſittart: his fortune did not, as was ſuppoſed, exceed thirty thouſand pounds; the principal part of which he left behind him, and, his remittances failing, he was early compelled to apply for leave to return to Bengal. His friends, however, had then little influence in the direction, and his application was unſucceſsful. In the year 1766, Mr Haſtings, by the advice of Doctor Johnſon, propoſed the inſtitution of a profeſſorſhip for the ſtudy of the Perſian language at Oxford, and might have been at the head of that inſtitution at this moment, if, fortunately for his country, a change in the politics of Leadenhall-ſtreet had not taken place. In the winter 1766 the affairs of the Eaſt India Company were brought before parliament, and Mr Haſtings was examined for ſeveral hours at the bar of the houſe of commons, where the information which he gave was ſo clear and ſatisfactory, that it brought him into general notice.

A change in the next year took place in Leadenhall-ſtreet, and he was appointed ſecond member of the adminiſtration at Madras, and to ſucceed to the government. He left England in the winter of 1768, and remained at Madras until January 1772, when he proceeded to Bengal, being appointed by the Company to fill that government, and with unlimited powers. This appointment he received very unexpectedly, and without ſolicitation on his part. The circumſtances which led to it properly make a part of his hiſtory.

In the year 1756 the Company obtained the ſovereignty of Bengal, which Lord Clive had aſſured them would yield, after the payment of every poſſible expence, a clear profit of a million per annum: the conſequence of this repreſentation was, that their ſtock roſe to double its former value, and the King's miniſters claimed a right to Bengal for the nation. To prevent the agitation of this queſtion of right, the Company agreed to pay five hundred thouſand pounds a-year to government, and they increaſed their dividend from eight to twelve and a half per cent. A very ſhort time proved the fallacy of Lord Clive's ſtatement; for between the years 1765 and 1771 the reſources of Bengal barely balanced its public expenditure. Bills were drawn by Bengal upon England for twelve hundred thouſand pounds, and a debt to that amount was contracted abroad.

The Company did not impute their diſappointment to a want of ability in Bengal to yield a million ſurplus, but to the defective ſyſtem which Lord Clive had eſtabliſhed, whoſe principle it was to leave the collection of the revenues, and the adminiſtration of juſtice, in the hands of a native miniſter; they determined, therefore, to try a new experiment: they diſplaced the native miniſter, and left it to the Britiſh government of Bengal to form a new ſyſtem, to be directed by their own adminiſtration.

At the head of this adminiſtration, and with unlimited authority, they placed Mr Haſtings; and the man who was rejected in 1766, when he applied to return upon any terms to Bengal, who was reduced by their refuſal to propoſe the inſtitution of a profeſſorſhip at Oxford as a plan for adding to the means of his ſubſiſtence, was, without any ſolicitation of his own, appointed to fill the higheſt office which a Britiſh ſubject could poſſeſs.

In April 1772 Mr Haſtings aſſumed the government of Bengal, and for

two

two years was ſedulouſly employed in forming and carrying into effect thoſe plans and regulations under which Bengal has for ſix-and-twenty years enjoyed internal tranquillity, the natives private ſecurity and happineſs, and the Britiſh nation the greateſt public advantages. In this period he regulated the collection of the public revenues, and the adminiſtration of civil and criminal juſtice. He formed foreign alliances, which added to the ſecurity of Bengal. He opened a communication with Egypt by the Red Sea, which promiſed the greateſt advantages to Bengal, and would have fixed the Britiſh influence in Egypt on a foundation not to be ſhaken by any efforts which France might now make, if the ſhort-ſighted policy of the Company had not counteracted his meaſures in this inſtance, under an idea that a commercial intercourſe with Turkey through Egypt might affect the trade of London. He deputed a public miniſter to Thibet, and kept up a friendly intercourſe with the Lama, which has continued uninterruptedly to the preſent time. It is but bare juſtice to Mr Haſtings to ſay, that every thing of domeſtic regulation or foreign connection, by which Bengal has ſo eminently flouriſhed, originated in the meaſures which he himſelf adopted in the firſt year of his adminiſtration.

While Mr Haſtings was laboriouſly exerting himſelf for the public ſervice in Bengal, a rigid enquiry into the paſt conduct of the Company's ſervants was carried on in the Houſe of Commons. Violent (and in moſt inſtances very unjuſt) cenſures were caſt upon them; but no part of this general cenſure reſted upon Mr Haſtings, whoſe reputation roſe ſtill higher from the ſcrutiny. The reſult was, the miniſter, Lord North, propoſed to fix a new government for Bengal, and that the members ſhould be nominated by parliament. He pronounced a very warm panegyrick on the character and conduct of Mr Haſtings, who was nominated Governor General of Bengal for five years, with the unanimous conſent of both Houſes.

It would be invidious, and would make no proper part of the preſent biographical ſketch, to enter into the diſſentions which prevailed in Bengal under the new ſyſtem, and which continued with little intermiſſion until Mr Francis quitted it in 1780. It can however with truth be aſſerted, that thoſe diſſentions did not diſturb the public tranquillity. The regulations adopted by Mr Haſtings, on his ſucceeding to the government in 1772, produced all the effects which he had predicted from them: the public debt was paid off, and Bengal yielded a tribute of more than a million a-year to Great Britain, until meaſures originating in England again involved us in difficulties in India.

The American war excited the reſtleſs ambition of France. She early determined on an interference, nor had ſhe beheld without jealouſy the riſe, progreſs, and great improvement of our Indian Empire. Her great object was to annihilate our power. To effect this, ſhe commenced her intrigues in India long before ſhe threw off her maſk in Europe. The fleet, commanded by D'Eſtaing, which ſailed for America in April 1778, was originally deſtined for India, though, by the preſſing ſolicitations of Dr Franklin, its deſtination was ſubſequently changed. In the ſucceeding years of the war, France ſent twenty ſail of the line, ſeven thouſand land forces, and ſeven millions ſterling to India. We had alſo to contend with Hyder Ally Cawn and the Mahrattas. During the whole of this arduous conteſt, Mr Haſtings remained at the head of the Bengal government—peace was concluded with all our enemies—we loſt no territory: on the contrary, by reſtoring the conqueſts made from France and Holland in India, Lord Lanſdown recovered two Weſt India Iſlands to Great Britain.

Were we not writing at a period when the events are freſh in our recollection, it could hardly be credited, that the Houſe of Commons, during the moſt critical period of the war, voted the recal of Mr Haſtings—a vote which the better ſenſe of the Company refuſed; and for ſo doing, at a ſubſequent period, the member (Mr Dundas) who moved the recal declared that the Company deſerved the thanks of the public.

Mr Haſtings was expreſsly deſired by the Company to retain the government until peace was completely reſtored in India. He did ſo, and on the return of tranquillity, applied for the appointment of a ſucceſſor, and notified his intention to return to England.

The meaſures which were at that time purſued in England prevented the Company from appointing a ſucceſſor to Mr Haſtings. In November 1783 Mr Fox propoſed his celebrated India bill. It was rejected by the Houſe of Lords, and the adminiſtration diſmiſſed. Under the new miniſtry, a ſyſtem was framed for the government of India. Full juſtice was done to the merits of Mr Haſtings; thanks were tranſmitted to him for his long, faithful, and able ſervices by the Company; and in compliance with his requeſt a ſucceſſor was appointed.

In June 1785 Mr Haſtings arrived in England, and was received with every mark of attention by his Sovereign, the Miniſters, and the Eaſt India Company. The Directors repeated their thanks to him unanimouſly for his long, faithful, and valuable ſervices. On leaving Bengal, public addreſſes were preſented to him by the Britiſh ſubjects of Calcutta, regretting his departure, and ſtating in ſtrong terms his beneficial exertions in the public ſervice. Similar addreſſes were tranſmitted to him from the army, and he appears to have been held in univerſal veneration by the natives of India.

If there ever was a man whoſe life had been ſpent in the ſervice of the public, that might look to an undiſturbed enjoyment of *otium cum dignitate* for the remnant of his days, ſurely Mr Haſtings was that man. He had been thirteen years the Governor or Governor General of Bengal; the firſt under the Company's appointments, the latter by five ſeparate parliamentary appointments. He recovered that government, loaded with a heavy public debt contracted in peace, and its reſources not exceeding three millions ſterling a year, a ſum barely adequate to its annual expences. He quitted it, after a long, arduous, and ſucceſsful war, with its empire conſiderably extended, with the general voice of his countrymen and the natives in his favour, and its annual reſources five millions and a half ſterling, being two millions beyond the annual expenditure. Mark the contraſt at home! When his government commenced in 1772, the empire of Great Britain extended over America—her debt was one hundred and thirty millions. In 1785 ſhe had loſt America, ſome of her Weſt India Iſlands, Minorca, and her debt was two hundred and ſixty millions. It was broadly ſtated by Mr Dundas, and not denied, that Bengal had been in a progreſſive ſtate of improvement under the Britiſh government. Facts of public notoriety proved the truth of this aſſertion; but what individual unſupported merit can reſiſt the fury of Party? On the day Mr Haſtings arrived in London, Mr Burke notified to the Houſe of Commons, that early in the next ſeſſions he would move an enquiry into the conduct of Mr Haſtings. During the receſs, Mr Haſtings was ſtrenuouſly adviſed by men who well knew the nature of parliament to pay no attention to this menace; or, if he was determined

termined to notice it, to come into parliament himſelf, and a ſeat was offered to him. He rejected the advice in both inſtances, declaring that he neither wiſhed to court nor to elude the enquiry, ſtill leſs was he diſpoſed to owe his ſecurity to the forbearance of Mr Burke; he therefore expreſsly deſired Major Scott to aſk Mr Burke in his place, at the next meeting of parliament, whether he meant to inſtitute the enquiry or not? To this queſtion Mr Burke gave an evaſive anſwer, but Mr Fox a direct one. Subſequent to this converſation in the Houſe, a general meeting of the party in oppoſition aſſembled at Burlington Houſe. The queſtion was debated, and great difference of opinion prevailed. The late Lord North, the preſent Marquis of Hertford, the Duke of Norfolk, then Lord Surry, and many other gentlemen, were againſt any further proceedings; but Mr Fox, with an unjuſtifiable generoſity, for which he has been amply repaid, ſupported Mr Burke, and, conceiving his character to be at ſtake, ſtrenuouſly contended for the proceeding, and it was taken up as a party meaſure. Mr Dempſter, the late Colonel Cathcart, Mr Sloper, Mr Nichols, and a few other members, ſeceded; but the party in general went with Mr Fox. Two years were ſpent in the Houſe of Commons before the impeachment was voted. The trial laſted ſix years in Weſtminſter Hall, and a ſeventh in the chamber of parliament; ſo that, if reckoned from 1785, when Mr Burke gave his notice, to 1795, when the acquittal was pronounced, this celebrated trial might vie for duration with the ſiege of Troy*.

The evidence on this celebrated trial was ſummed up by Lord Thurlow with an accuracy and preciſion that reflects the higheſt honour on that diſtinguiſhed character; and his ſpeeches contain the beſt hiſtory of Mr Haſting's adminiſtration that has hitherto been publiſhed.

This remarkable proſecution coſt the nation above one hundred thouſand pounds, and the law expences of Mr Haſtings amounted to more than ſixty thouſand pounds; to which, if we add the incidental expences attending it, we may fairly ſay, that the trial coſt him one hundred thouſand pounds alſo. While it was depending, it has been repeatedly ſaid in the Houſe, that in the event of his acquittal he had an undoubted right to remuneration from parliament. A petition was accordingly drawn up by him, but the Miniſter would not adviſe his Majeſty to agree to its being preſented. A General Court was afterwards called at the India Houſe, and a motion made by Mr Ald. Luſhington, prefaced by a very eloquent and energetic ſpeech in favour of Mr Haſtings. After the fulleſt acknowledgement of his ſervices, it was propoſed to pay the legal expences of his trial, and to grant him a penſion of five thouſand pounds a-year for the remainder of the charter. Both motions were carried by conſiderable majorities; but doubts were ſtarted as to the right of the Company to diſpoſe of their own money without the conſent of the Board of Commiſſioners. The great lawyers held different opinions; but the Attorney and Solicitor General were decidedly againſt ſuch a right being veſted in the Company. On this deciſion a new motion was brought forward in concert with his Majeſty's Miniſters, who agreed (without any reference to the trial), in conſideration of Mr Haſting's public ſervices, to grant him a penſion of four thouſand pounds a-year for twenty-eight years and a half; of this penſion they immediately gave him forty two thouſand pounds, and lent him in addition fifty thouſand pounds. The whole ſum voted was

* *Quem neque Tydides, nec Larliſſæus Achilles,*
Non anni domuere decem---non mille loquelæ.
VIRG.

one hundred and fourteen thouſand pounds, of which they immediately paid him ninety-two thouſand; the remainder he was to receive at the rate of five thouſand pounds a-year to the cloſe of the charter; the other two thouſand pounds were to be ſtopped to repay the loan of fifty thouſand pounds, and his eſtate was charged with a mortgage for the ſum of fourteen thouſand pounds, which would be due to the Company when the charter expired. We have given this account, becauſe few have known what ſum was really granted to Mr Haſtings.

There have been various impeachments at different periods of our hiſtory; but Mr Haſtings is the firſt Britiſh ſubject acquitted after a trial on an accuſation preferred by the Commons. There are many inſtances of acquittal at the bar of the Houſe of Lords; but in all others they have proceeded from a difference between the two Houſes, as in the caſes of the Whig Lords in the reign of William the Third, and of Lord Oxford in the reign of George the Firſt, and ſometimes by the Commons not proſecuting. But, to the honour of the adminiſtration of juſtice in this reign, the trial of Mr Haſtings was brought to a legal determination without any interference on the part of the Crown, the King's Miniſters, or the Houſe of Commons, and by thoſe Lords only who had generally attended the trial. Two other circumſtances highly honourable to Mr Haſtings ought alſo to be mentioned. He was impeached in the name of the people of England, for acts of tyranny, injuſtice, and oppreſſion, exerciſed upon the natives of India. While the trial was yet pending, the natives of India, of all ranks and ſects, tranſmitted to the Eaſt India Company, through Lord Cornwallis, their full diſavowal of the charge, and expreſſed their perfect ſatisfaction with the conduct of Mr Haſtings, and their ſtrong attachment to him. When the intelligence of his acquittal arrived in India, it was received with enthuſiaſtic pleaſure. Addreſſes of congratulation were tranſmitted to him by the Britiſh ſubjects in Calcutta, by the officers of the army, and by all claſſes amongſt the natives: and the event was celebrated by public rejoicings in every part of Bengal.

The charge preferred againſt him, in behalf of the Eaſt India Company, was alſo diſclaimed by that body. He was accuſed of having brought upon them great loſs and damage, and of having wantonly waſted their property. Men bred to buſineſs reſorted to the evidence of figures; they found that Mr Haſtings had preſerved the Britiſh Empire in India entire, had even improved it during a hazardous war, and had added two millions a year to their annual reſources. They thought him entitled to applauſe rather than to cenſure, and they returned him their unanimous thanks for his long, faithful, and able ſervices.

Prejudice has now ſubſided, and England and India proclaim with united rapture their obligations to Mr Haſtings.

In private life, he is univerſally allowed to be a man of very general knowledge—an excellent Engineer (having practiſed that art under the celebrated Mr Robins), and an Architect. His minutes on military ſubjects prove him well qualified to command an army; and that he is an able Financier, and an admirable Lawyer, appears by his "Plans for the Better Adminiſtration of Juſtice," which have been publiſhed.

Many ſcholars and men of talents have tranſlated the celebrated Ode of Horace which begins, "Otium divos rogat," &c. The tranſlation of Mr Haſtings is ſuperior to them all. He wrote the following lines in Mr Mickle's excellent Verſion of the Luſiad of Camoens, to be inſerted at the end of the ſpeech of Pacheco:

Yet